The Canadian Jewish news

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Driver saves Israeli teen

JERUSALEM (JTA) — Courageous action by a quick-thinking driver averted possible tragedy last week after a Palestinian terrorist stabbed a teenage boy at a bus stop in northern Jerusalem.

Ami Messika jumped from his car and pursued the attacker after hearing shouts of "terrorists, terrorists" from a boy and two women running down a road in the French Hill section of the city.

The 15-year-old boy, stabbed by a man shouting "Allahu akhbar (Allah is great)," sustained a slight shoulder wound. Messika, a gardener, warned the attacker that he would shoot, although he had no weapon with him. He then knocked the terrorist down. The terrorist reached for his own gun just as a second passerby joined the fray, helping Messika hold the man down until police came.

She'arim in trouble

By LEILA SPEISMAN

TORONTO —

The economic crunch has hit yet another Toronto school. And the impact, if it is not rescued, may have implications far beyond a mere school closing.

Last week, shaken parents of students at Dr. Abraham Shore Academy She'arim Hebrew Day School were told at an emergency meeting that money had had to be borrowed to pay the current salaries, and dramatic steps would have to be taken to find funds to continue the operation of the school.

Gerry Goldberg, chairman of the board of the school, said that only one-third of Shearim's income comes from tuition fees.

"The school has the policy that no child will be refused admission for monetary reasons," he said.

Because many parents have been hit by the recession, a good proportion of them receive subsidies, he explained.

As well, he said, unlike other schools which receive a per capita grant from the Board of Jewish Education (BJE), She'arim receives a flat grant, one which covers only 10 percent of its costs.

The remainder of its budget has to come from fund raising efforts — which, Goldberg pointed out, is more difficult than ever in this time of restraint.

She'arim was founded in 1981 by Rabbis Joseph Kelman and Irwin Witty and a group of parents who wanted their learning disabled children to have a Jewish day school education.

(The term "learning disability" refers to problems in the intaking, processing or communicating of knowledge. It has no relationship to intelligence, behavior or age.)

Rabbi Witty and Sandy Brown, executive director and chair of the Board of Jewish Education, told *The CJN* that She'arim has at this time not come to them for emergency assistance.

If they do, Brown said, "I am sure that the community would take a good hard look to see what can be done."

Rabbi Witty noted that before the establishment of She'arim, there were no options in the Jewish education field for parents who wanted a more intensive day school education.

"She'arim has earned a tremendous reputation. It has literally saved hundreds of youngsters when they were in need of more individualized and specific instruction than what is available in mainstream day schools."

He pointed out that because of the nature of the program, and the high teacher/student ratio, the per capita cost of educating a student at She'arim is about $4,500 above the most expensive elementary day school.

The school, besides highly individualized teaching, also offers such special services as art therapy, a child study team, parent support group, and movement therapy for the younger children who need it.

Studies have shown that from 10 to 15 percent of the population has a learning disability severe enough to warrant some form of special education. Regular day schools, themselves suffering from severe budgetary cutbacks, are unable to provide this extra help.

Renee Exton, co-president along with Judy Zauder of the She'arim Parents' Association, has a son, Jory, who has been in the school for five years. She sees the school as "a blessing."

"It is a safe haven and a choice. People have to understand — without She'arim, children would probably have to be in a public school. That is an option that is simply not acceptable for those who are committed to a day school education for their children."

She is especially pleased that her son is exposed to children from the entire religious spectrum, Orthodox to Reform.

Rabbi Kelman, who was "able to call upon good friends from Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Congregation [where the school is housed at a nominal rent] to pay the last salary bill," praised the school for helping children "regain self respect and a feeling of self-worth."

But, he said, the community has to support it.

The school is by no means taking the financial crisis sitting down. An active fundraising program is underway, including a lottery, a telethon to be held on December 6 and 13, parlor meetings, donation cards, selling children's watches, chocolates, and bingo.

More, and long-term help is needed, however.

Proposals for more funding by the BJE have been submitted, which, Rabbi Witty said, will "most likely be considered in preparing the budget for the next fiscal year."

Brown noted that, as well, a special commission is studying all aspects of Jewish education. It is also looking at special education, she said, "how to give the most services in the best way."

School principal Dori Levine has been with the school since its founding, and has seen enrolment grow from five children to 55. She gives credit to the synagogue, which has been "wonderfully gracious over the years," and the teachers, "who have shown extreme dedication to the school and the students."

The staff and student body have expressed concern and a feeling of insecurity, the children worrying that they will have no place to go to school and the teachers that they will not have jobs, she said.

Although the situation is grave, there is a steely determination among all concerned that it is not by any means hopeless.

As Goldberg insists, "The board has reiterated that the school will carry on no matter what."

Germany fights violence

BONN (JTA) —

The German government pledged better national coordination in fighting the spread of neo-Nazi violence as police in Bavaria prevented a right-wing extremist rally.

The government over the weekend promised better intelligence gathering on neo-Nazi groups and enhanced exchanges of information about them with Germany's federal states.

The efforts will be co-ordinated at the ministerial level by Friedrich Bohl, an official in the chancellory of Helmut Kohl.

Government spokesman Dieter Vogel said Bonn also will undertake education efforts to combat political violence.

Vogel spoke Saturday as large police contingents confiscated banners with neo-Nazi symbols and blocked major roads to Passau to prevent a neo-Nazi march in the Bavarian town.

The turbulence generated by a mounting wave of extremism was reflected in Berlin, where several people were injured in a march against neo-Nazism that turned violent. Demonstrators attacked the police, saying they protect neo-Nazi vandals.

Thousands of Turks marched Saturday in Bonn and Berlin to protest neo-Nazi violence, which last month resulted in the deaths of three ethnic Turks in an arson attack. They laid a wreath to victims of neo-Nazism outside the Interior Ministry, which is in charge of internal security.

In Munich, more than 300,000 Germans held a street vigil Sunday to protest against attacks on foreigners by right-wing gangs.

Police said they will ban planned demonstrations by neo-Nazi groups Jan. 31 and Feb. 27 in Berlin to mark the anniversaries of Hitler's seizure of power and the Nazi burning of the Reichstag, respectively.

High-level concern was expressed last week over the ramifications of months of racist violence by extremist gangs against foreigners and Jewish memorials.

President Richard von Weizsacker said he had twice telephoned Israeli President Chaim Herzog to express dismay over the ongoing wave of neo-Nazi violence.

He told Israeli journalists in Frankfurt that Germany would protect Jewish life in the country and safeguard non-Germans living in the country.

"Jews in Germany have nothing to fear," said the president. "The huge majority of Germans and, of course, the government at all levels, shares their concerns and supports effective action to put an end to racist and anti-Semitic violence."

The president spoke after addressing a ceremony commemorating the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the central office of the Jewish community.

Chancellor Kohl told diplomatic heads of missions in Bonn he is ashamed of the attacks against foreigners and said his government would make every effort to put an end to the violence.

German police have been cracking down on neo-Nazis [RNS photo/Reuters]

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Canada

JTS chancellor attempts to mend rabbinical rift

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

Apart from addressing some 400 people at Beth Tzedec Congregation on the future of Conservative Judaism, Ismar Schorsch was in town recently to calm still-simmering discontent among Ontario's Conservative rabbis.

Schorsch, chancellor of the Jewish Theological Seminary, Conservative Jewry's major degree-granting institution, calls Toronto a "treasure" in Conservative circles and one worth fighting for.

And a fight it seems to be, for the Conservative rabbinate in Toronto and surrounding communities is still livid over what it views as its movement's abrupt and dramatic shift to the left.

"I came here to try to avert a split," Schorsch told *The CJN*. "It's too early [for Conservative rabbis here] to give up."

Ontario's 18 Conservative rabbis have come perilously close to giving up on their movement's umbrella organization for rabbis, the New York-based Rabbinical Assembly (RA).

It's long been known that Conservative rabbis in this province are to the right of their colleagues in the United States but the size of the gap was not evident until earlier this year.

The winds of change began to blow in 1990, when Conservative rabbis voted to endorse full civil equality for homosexual Jews and said such Jews should be welcome in synagogues.

Last March, the movement's powerful Committee on Jewish Laws and Standards voted to accept a minority responsum that Conservative Jewry should no longer regard homosexuality as an abomination.

For many Conservative rabbis in Ontario, the straw that broke the camel's back was the RA's convention last May, when resolutions were passed to establish a commission on human sexuality, to create gender-neutral wording in publications and — the most contentious — to allow Conservative rabbis to serve gay and lesbian congregations.

Not long after that, Ontario's Conservative rabbis served notice that they may quit the RA en masse. But a split was averted because only the RA's headquarters can dissolve a region.

Neverthless, Rabbi Wayne Allen, chairman of the RA's Ontario region, resigned, saying it was impossible for him to continue in light of his movement's increasingly liberal bent.

Ismar Schorsch

Conservative rabbis then said they may join the newly-created Rabbinic Keness, a group that merges right-leaning Conservative rabbis with their more liberal Orthodox colleagues.

But Schorsch sounded some sympathy for the Ontario rabbis.

"I care about their discomfort and I recognize the legitimacy of their non-egalitarian views. One-third of all [Conservative] congregations are non-egalitarian." Schorsch feels full equality between the sexes in religious rites is "religiously offensive and politically an error."

He called the RA's May convention a "well-planned ambush" that "embarrassed" many members.

But he admonished rabbis not to join the Keness. "If you join," he explained, "you marginalize yourself" because the groups behind it — the Union for Traditional Judaism and the Fellowship of Traditional Orthodox Rabbis — "have no influence at all. They are minuscule."

Schorsch said he's working to prevent Conservative Judaism from becoming polarized and bound by ideology.

He said he recognizes the movement is diverse and that there is room for all views.

"We need the Yiddishkeit of Toronto," he said. "We are not going to let them go easily."

Winnipeg conference deals with 'special needs' of Jews

By MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG —

Ava Block-Super and other handicapped Jewish adults and children in the community have finally received a hearing in the community. The message: they want to fit in and be accommodated and accepted.

Block-Super suffers from generalized dystonia, a hereditary disease which afflicts Ashkenazi Jews. For 11 years she was confined to a wheelchair. With successful surgery, she has recovered most of her physical abilities, except for a speech impediment.

On Nov. 22, Block-Super was one of four panelists who spoke about how difficult it has been for Jewish children and adults with special needs to find support and belonging in the Jewish community.

The panel, which also included Thelma Bronstein (a co-founder of Shalom Residences Inc., Jewish group homes for the mentally handicapped), Lil Duboff and Fay Mount, all mothers of special needs children, was one of the highlights of the Winnipeg Jewish community's first-ever special needs conference.

Our Special People: A Conference on Integration of People with Special Needs in the Jewish Community, which began on Saturday evening, Nov. 21 and concluded on Sunday, Nov. 22, was very well attended. Yude Henteleff, gave his conference co-chair, Karyn Lazareck and her husband, Mel, much of the credit for bringing the conference into being.

The Lazarecks are community leaders in several areas. They are also parents of a specisl needs child. About a year ago, they and a small number of other parents of special needs children along with some professionals working in the field formed an ad hoc committee to see how Jewish special needs children could participate more fully in the programs the Jewish community has of offer. The special needs committee has become a sub-committee of the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council.

"We had three objectives," Karyn Lazareck told the conference. "Our first goal was integration in programs offered at the YMHA Jewish Community Centre (which hosted the conference) as soon as possible. We surveyed some young families to determine how much interest there was in more information about support programs for special needs children. Twelve families who responded had special needs children while another 50 respondents were interested in more information. This conference [which as funded by the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba] is intended to raise awareness, encourage dialogue, exchange ideas and learn from each other and adopt a plan of action."

'No cure-all'

The conference began with a speech by Doreen Kronick of Toronto, one of Canada's leading special needs education consultants. "There is no cure-all," she said. "Cosmetic physical changes alone won't do. You need an overall philosophy, the necessary support services and a good fit between client and school or camp."

Sunday afternoon was dedicated to developing plans of action. Conference participants were divided into discussion groups the results of which were subsequently presented to the general conference.

Among the suggestions was a call for the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education to develop an integration policy and after school Hebrew programs for special needs children and to hire a consultant to co-ordinate all programs for exceptional children including those who are gifted and talented.

For parents of special needs children, it was recommended that outreach programs be established through the synagogues (a couple of speakers noted the lack of synagogue representation at the conference) and the Winnipeg Jewish Community Council and that the Jewish Child and Family Service make information available concerning Jewish services for special needs children. There was also discussion of the establishment of parenting networks.

It was further recommended that synagogues be made more accessible to the handicapped; that the special needs committee meet with synagogue rabbis and executive directors and that a speaker's bureau of handicapped people be established to go and speak in the synagogues. As well, Jewish community institutions were urged to adopt employment equity programs.

In recreation, recommendations included the hiring of a community co-ordinator for special needs children and the establishment of one central agency for special needs programming for children and adults.

In her summation, Kronick recommended a sequential approach to integration. "You can't just plug into services," she said. "You take one issue at a time and make sure you deal with it properly."

"Despite good intentions, there remains an enormous gap bewtween what services there are and what services there ought to be," said Henteleff. "For special needs people who are now in their thirties and forties, there was very little help in the Jewish community. This conference is intended to try to make sure that help is there for others. This is just the beginning."

Ukrainian college seeking books

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

A 360-year-old college in the Ukraine is in desperate need of academic books in English, Russian, Yiddish and Hebrew and members of the Jewish community are being asked to respond.

Several members of the Jewish academic community and Holy Blossom Temple have already contributed books to the drive, said Stephen Velychenko, chair, Ukrainian Studies, University of Toronto. Their contributions were on Jewish culture and history.

The Kievo-Mohyla Academy in Kiev is being re-established as a liberal arts university on the Western model at its original location. The Academy's languages of instruction are Ukrainian and English, but Velychenko said academic books, or literature, in Yiddish or Hebrew could be useful in courses about Jewish history and culture.

Academic texts at the secondary school level are also needed, he said.

From 200 to 700 students have already registered at the academy, he said, but he has no information on whether any are Jewish. Cataloguing of the books contributed is well underway so that current students will be able to make use of them.

A group of 120 Ukrainian-Canadian academics across the country conducted a book drive on behalf of the academy this summer. The drive resulted in 30,000 to 40,000 books being collected in a warehouse in Toronto for shipment to Kiev.

Any books donated before Jan. 15 can be sent along with those already earmarked for shipment at the end of January.

Velychenko said he would pick up any donation of five to 10 boxes of books and asks that those with smaller amounts pool their contributions to be picked up. He can be reached at the Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Toronto, 978-3332.

NEW OFFICES

Berny and Belle Weinstein, founding members, put up the mezuzah at the new offices of Beit Halochem Canada, Aid To Disabled Veterans of Israel. For the past 14 years, office space for Beit Halochem Canada has been donated by Dansbury Sales. As a result of an ongoing campaign to raise $2 million for rehabilitation equipment in Jerusalem, larger office space was required, and the organization has moved to Avenue Road & Wilson.

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War crimes inaction slammed

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

Five years after legislation was enacted to permit the prosecution of Nazi war criminals, the Justice Department's war crimes unit has a sorry record in bringing war criminals to justice, says an analysis authored by lawyer David Matas of B'nai Brith's Institute for International Affairs.

In a 93-page, highly detailed report, Matas offered a stinging criticism of overly cautious prosecutors, a judge derailed by anti-Communist beliefs into presenting an "ideological and idiosyncratic" decision, unconscionable delays in rendering judgements and the unwillingness of prosecutors to push for new methods of identifying Nazi war criminals in Canada.

"There is no area of the law where action is more lethargic," Matas said in his report. "Each effort comes at a snail's pace. . . The government decided not to learn from and duplicate the experience in the United States. . . It took years before the system developed to a working harmony that paralleled the organization that the United States had established."

Responding to the report, Justice Minister Kim Campbell said she was

David Matas

considering making a key speech to highlight her department's actions against Nazi war criminals. The federal government has not done enough to educate the public about the importance of prosecuting war criminals, she told reporters following release of the B'nai Brith report.

Examining each of the five cases tackled by the war crimes unit in its five-year history, Matas said the criminal prosecution approach appears to have failed while the only successes involve deportation and denaturalization of suspects.

"The choice is between, on the one hand, waiting indefinitely for the Crown to prepare perfect criminal cases that never materialize, acquittals from juries that do not believe in the law, roadblocking from judges on technicalities and, on the other hand, denaturalization and deportation."

Matas noted that the only successes for the war crimes unit involved stripping Dutch Nazi collaborator Jacob Luitjens of his citizenship and deporting him to Holland (in a process that took four years) as well as obtaining a deportation order against Nazi rocket scientist Arthur Rudolph, who was visiting Canada.

Matas slammed Ontario Justice James Chadwick in the Michael Pawlawski case for failing to allow the collection of evidence in the former Soviet Union.

The Winnipeg lawyer offered 53 recommendations designed to aid in bringing Nazi war criminals to justice, chief among them giving priority to denaturalization and deportation proceedings.

In other recommendations, Matas suggested that "in war crimes trials, the Crown should object to all defence appeals to racal, ethnic or religious prejudice, not just those made in the jury address, but also those made in the questioning of witnesses."

File on Fromm extensive

TORONTO —

A little over a year ago, Rodney Bobiwash, the anti-racism coordinator of the Native Canadian Centre (NCC), was addressing a meeting of the Toronto Mayor's Committee on Race Relations when he was interrupted by a remark from the visitor's gallery.

As if in a surrealistic dream, Bobiwash was surprised to hear one of the onlookers say "Scalp 'em," as he was outlining his concerns over the white supremacist Heritage Front.

That remark, coming from an English teacher in the Peel Board of Education, prompted a furor and landed the teacher, Paul Fromm, in enough hot water to cloud his future as a teacher.

Responding to the urgent requests of Canadian Jewish Congress and the NCC, Education Minister Tony Silipo appointed lawyer Jeff Cowan to investigate Fromm, with a focus on the question: would a reasonable person feel confident that children would be treated fairly and equally in Fromm's classroom, free from racial and religious discrimination.

Congress, which has amassed an extensive file on Fromm going back to his days as a university student, has already made a presentation before Cowan. While that took place in a closed-door meeting, the Jewish organization's views have repeatedly been made clear: Fromm's background, his unsavory associations with white supremacists and his anti-immigrant views disqualify him from being in the position as a role model for students.

As early as May, 1972, when Fromm was only 23, the *Toronto Sun* reported that Fromm gave the opening address at a banquet of the Western Guard, of which Fromm was a member. Rev. Robert Miles, a leader of the U.S. Ku Klux Klan who was charged with bombing schools in Pontiac, Mich., was a guest.

The *Sun* story, which was cited in *White Hoods; Canada's Ku Klux Klan* by Julian Sher, quoted Miles as saying that Canada was the "last stronghold of white, Christian supremacist culture and a place for white Americans to come if the struggle against the Jewish-inspired mongrelization of white and black is allowed to continue."

Fromm remained a member of the Western Guard during its first three months of existence in 1972 — it was an extremist offshoot of the Edmund Burke Society, of which Fromm was also a member. He left the Guard to publish a quarterly, *Countdown*, which took an anti-communist line and was devoted to "preserving our Western civilization."

In its September 1972 issue, Fromm wrote in an article titled, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, that 33 percent of immigrants to Canada were non-whites.

Fromm asked: "Is Canada a white nation with a European cultural heritage and backbone, or are we to smother our uniqueness in the universal causes of ultra-liberalism?"

Stanley Barrett, who quoted Fromm's anti-immigration rant in *Is God a Racist; The Right Wing in Canada*, reported also that in 1980 Fromm was a founder of Canadian Association for Free Expression (CAFE). CAFE has objected to the *Toronto Star's* description of the KKK as a terrorist racist group, linked the Liberal government's immigration policies to increased racial tensions and contended that Holocaust-denier Ernst Zundel's mailing privileges should be restored.

In his 1987 book, Barrett distinguished Fromm from members of the "far right." He refers to Fromm and others like him as being on "the fringe of the radical right."

In 1981, Barrett states, Fromm was elected treasurer of the Progressive Conservatives-Metro. In a newspaper interview in the *Globe and Mail* Fromm was reported as saying that he believes in restricted immigration, thinks the boat people should have been sent to inhabit desert islands and " 'expresses the belief that a supreme race of intelligent people is a good idea.' "

Fromm subsequently "bowed out" as treasurer under intense pressure.

Fromm, who was a founder of Canadians for Foreign Aid Reform (C-FAR) and now serves as research director, publishes C-FAR's *Canadian Issues Series* bulletin.

In 1990, it carried a copy of a speech and writings by University of Western Ontario professor Phillippe Rushton on Race, Evolution and AIDS, outlining the professor's controversial race-based views that placed orientals, whites and blacks in a hierarchy of intelligence, sexual practices and temperament.

In a Sept, 25 1992 letter to the editor of the *Kitchener-Waterloo Record*, Fromm defends free speech in the context of Zundel's Holocaust-denial views, which some people, he says, see as "wrong-headed, outrageous or provocative." Fromm himself did not criticize Zundel's views.

Over the years, C-FAR's *Canadian Population & Immigration* quarterly reports have focused on the activities of minority groups. In July and August 1989, it carried stories headed: Watch out for the flood from Hong Kong, White males don't qualify for fed. subsidy, More Vietnamese are coming, and Black charged with burning prostitute who tried to escape.

The June 1989 report has stories headed Police seek blacks in knife attack and Senior citizen mugged by black.

In December 1990, C-FAR cosponsored a "Martyr's Day Rally" in memory of Robert Jay Matthews, a member of the violent, white-supremacist organization known as The Order. Matthews was killed in shoot-out with U.S. police.

Other co-sponsors of the rally included the Aryan Resistance Movement (ARM) and the Church of the Creator.

Speaking on a platform festooned with the Confederate flag and the banner of the Heritage Front, Fromm is recorded on videotape telling the audience "We're all on the same side. But we must know who the enemy is."

A May 15 publication of CAFE authored by the organization's president, Daryl Reside, claims Fromm did not know that Matthews was to be honored at the rally. The article says Fromm has denied any link between C-FAR and the Heritage Front (though according to an advertising flyer, Fromm was to deliver the keynote address at a September 1991 forum sponsored by the Heritage Front).

The *CAFE* article also describes Fromm's "scalp 'em" remark as hotheaded and ill-conceived."

Fromm has denied being a racist and says he is a victim of guilt by association. — P.L.

Clarification

Our Nov. 26 story, "Radio remarks prompt complaint," referred to a letter of complaint by Canadian Jewish Congress to the CRTC about a statement made by a commentator on The FAN all sports radio station that Congress said stereotyped Jews. Our report inadvertently failed to indicate that the sports commentator who made the remark was Joe Bowen. We regret any embarassment that omission may have caused.

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Canada

'Political leaders' square off in debate

By FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO —

It wasn't your average information session on Israeli politics. The Common Ground Challenge, held last week at the Leah Posluns Theatre, saw prominent members of the local Jewish community take on the personae of Israeli political leaders in a spirited and thought-provoking debate.

The event was a first-time fund-raiser for the non-profit Common Ground, which runs similar education-through-role-playing seminars for small groups.

Participation is key, and even in the virtually full 444-seat theatre, audience members were designated as Israeli (left or right wing, Labor or Likud) or Palestinian (nationalist or Islamic fundamentalist) and given background information to enable them to support or challenge those on stage. Mike Berger, educational director for Common Ground, was moderator for the discussions.

Entertainment personality Al Waxman served as emcee for the evening. "Today there are a growing number of Jews distancing themselves from Israel," said Waxman, who recently directed a film in Israel. "It is vital that we inform ourselves," he said, "so that we can effectively speak to others."

The debate saw right-wingers General Raful Eitan (Steve Ain, executive vice-president, United Israel Appeal) and Binyamin Netanyahu (criminal lawyer Eddie Greenspan) take on Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin (Moshe Ronen, Israel Affairs committee chair, Canadian Jewish Congress) and Shulamit Aloni (Sheila Engel, vice-president, United Israel Appeal). They were joined later in the program by Faisal Husseini (Jim Lederman, longtime Middle East correspondent for CBC and National Public Radio) to debate whether the Palestinians have the right to a sovereign state in the West Bank and Gaza.

Prior to the debates, Professor Gabriel Ben-Dor spoke about a few points upon which even Israelis holding diverse views would agree.

Steve Ain, left, Eddie Greenspan, Moshe Ronen and Sheila Engel assumed the role of Israeli leaders in the recent Common Ground Challenge. [Jerry Trompeter photo]

He noted that Israel's size (comparable to that of Vancouver Island) makes it difficult to defend; that the military threat to Israel comes from the Arab states, not the Palestinian Arabs in Israel; that Israel is badly outnumbered and its technological edge has been severely reduced; that it is economically vulnerable; and that the territories confer an important military advantage on Israel.

Although nobody won the first debate, which concerned land for peace, there were sporadic outbursts of applause for Ain in his role as Eitan. "When will we learn from history?" Ain cried. "There is only one solution: a secure Israel."

Ronen, as Rabin, countered that guns and bullets are not a solution. "We are strong enough to take a calculated risk," he argued. "Strength alone does not bring peace.

Following the debate, international human rights advocate Irwin Cotler spoke of the deep-seated existential problems underlying the Arab-Israeli conflict. "What one community sees as the source of its legitimacy, the other sees as the source of its oppression," he said.

Cotler also spoke of the skewed image of Israel we receive from the media, and the repercussions for young people, especially on university campuses, where Israel is viewed as politically incorrect. He commended Common Ground for their role in educating young people about Israel. Knowledge will enable us to reach common ground amongst ourselves and will enable us to better reach common ground with Arabs, he said.

For more information about Common Ground, call (416) 636-1880, ext. 266.

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רעדאַגירט פון ש. ליפשיץ

מיט שטאָלצן גאַנג

פון ליבע אויגנפעלד (מאָנטרעאַל)

מיט עטלעכע חדשים צוריק איז דערשינען אין ישראל אַ בוך אונטערן נאָמען „**מיט שטאָלצן גאַנג**", געשריבן דורך אַ גרופּע געוועזענע פאַרטיזאַנער אין די נאַראָטשער וועלדער אין די יאָרן 1939-1945.

דאָס דערשיינען פון דעם בוך איז אַ פאַר־ווירקלעכונג פון אַ ווייטער פאַנטאַזיע, פון אַ נעפלדיקן חלום, וואָס האָט זיך געמומען אַרויס־שיילן מיט עטלעכע יאָר צוריק און איז געוואָרן אַ רעאַליטעט נאָך פיל מי און אָנשטרענגונג.

דאָס איז אַ בוך פון זכרונות און אָפּשאַצונגען, באַשרייבונגען פון איבערלעבונגען במשך פון די יאָרן פון אונטערדריקונג און פאַרניכטונג בעת דער צווייטער וועלט־מלחמה.

ווי איינע פון די מיטבאַטייליקטע אין דעם בוך, וויל איך פאָרשטעלן פאַרן לייענער דעם כאַראַקטער פון בוך און דעם הינטערגרונט, ווי אַזוי עס איז באַשאַפן געוואָרן.

קודם כל וואָר זיינען מיר, אָדער בעסער געזאָגט וואָר זיינען מיר געווען, וועַן אונדזער פריינדשאַפט האָט זיך אָנגעהויבן מיט קהוב 50 יאָר צוריק? מיר זיינען געווען אַ גרופּע יונגע מענטשן, טייל פון אונדז גאָר יונגע, וועַן דער גורל האָט אונדז צוזאַמענגעפירט אין די נאַראָטשער וועלדער, צפון־מזרח־דיק פון ווילנע. אַ טייל פון אונדז איז געקומען פון ווילנער געטאָ אין אַרגאַניזירטע גרופּעס — אין דער גרעסטער מאָס פון פ.פ.א. (פאַראייניקטע פאַרטיזאַנער אָרגאַניזאַציע), די אַנדערע פון די שטעטלעך פון ווילנער פראָווינץ, איינצלווייז אָדער צו צוויי — אַנטלאָפענע פון פאַרשיידענע לאַגערן און שחיטות. צווישן אונדז זיינען אויך געווען פּליטים פון פוילן, וואָס זיינען שוין געווען היימלאָז זינט דעם אויסברוך פון דער מלחמה אין סעפּטעמבער 1939.

מיר זיינען ווייט ניט געווען קיין איינהייט־לעכע גרופּע. פונקט ווי מיר זיינען געווען פון פאַרשיידענע שטעט און שטעטלעך, האָבן מיר אויך געהערט צו פאַרשיידענע סאָציאַלע שיכטן, דערצויגן געוואָרן אין שולן אָפּטמאָל פון אַ קעגנזעצלעכן כאַראַקטער און געהערט צו יוגנט־אָרגאַניזאַציעס פון יעדער שאַטירונג.

איין זאַך האָט אונדז געבונדן. מיר זיינען געווען שטאָלצע, באַוואוסטזיניקע יידן, וואָס זיינען געווען גרייט אויף קרבנות, גרייט צו קעמפן פאַר אונדזער פרייהייט און מיט אַ ברענענדיקן באַגער זיך אָפּצוּרעכענען מיטן שונא, פאַרן פאַרטיליקן אונדזערע משפּחות און אונדזער פאָלק.

וועגן אונדזערע איבערלעבונגען, וועגן די נסיונות פאַר וועלכע יעדער פון אונדז איז געשטאַנען, וועגן אונדזערע באַמיאונגען צו העלפן יידן אויף הפקר אין די וועלדער — וועגן דעם אַלעמען וועט זיך לייענער געפינען אין בוך.

מיר האַלטן זיך זייער נאָענט. מיט עטלעכע יאָר צוריק האָבן מיר זיך געטראָפן און במשך פון 4 טעג האָבן מיר גערעדט און גערעדט און גערעדט. און פון דעם ריידן איז אַרויסגעקומען דאָס בוך, כעסער געזאָגט 2 ביכער — איינס אין ייִדיש „מיט שטאָלצן גאַנג", דאָס צווייטע אין עברית „בקומה זקופה".

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A leading Orthodox Congregation in Ottawa, Canada requires a Rabbi to fill a senior position. The rabbi would fill the pulpit of a downtown Shule and have communal responsibilities as well.

Our Congregation comprises many mature members but is seeking to expand its younger membership. We need someone with the energy, enthusiasm and wisdom to lead and attract younger congregants and prospective members but with the experience and learning important to more established, senior members.

Candidates of all levels of experience are invited to apply in strictest confidence to: **Mr. Stanley Levine, President, Congregation Beth Shalom, 151 Chapel Street, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 7Y2.**

Director of Education

Commencing September 1993

(with some flexibility, if required)

In preparation for the upcoming retirement of our founding Director of Education, United Synagogue Day School seeks a dynamic individual to provide overall leadership and direction to the Hebrew and General Studies programs at our three school campuses. The Director of Education will be responsible for: the quality of education for all students; planning, development and implementation of Hebrew and General studies curricula; supervision, motivation and development of staff; and efficient administration of all campuses.

The successful candidate: has had proven leadership experience in a Jewish day school; possesses superior administrative and interpersonal skills; demonstrates exemplary pedagogical skills and has an extensive Judaic Hebraic background.

The United Synagogue Day School, the largest school of the Solomon Schechter Day School Association (Conservative), has a student population of 1300 and is served by over 150 staff members at three campuses. The grade span includes Junior Kindergarten to Grade 8.

Applications for Director of Education wil be accepted until February 15, 1993. Applications will be held in strict confidence. Write: Dr. Ira Schecter, Chairman, Search Committee, United Synagogue Day School, 1700 Bathurst St., Toronto, Ont. M5P 3K3, Fax number: 416-787-9632.

YORK UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ARTS

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Applications are invited for a part-time instructor of Modern Hebrew Language *(Advanced and Elementary)*, from January 4, 1993 to April 30, 1993.

Applicants must be completely fluent in modern standard Hebrew, have a university degree in Hebrew language or literature, training beyond the BA level in second-language teaching or a related field, and experience in teaching Hebrew language at university level.

Hours of instruction are Mon., Wed., Fri. 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and Mon., Wed. 6:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m., plus office and meeting hours.

Salary will be approximately $10,000.

Applications, with names of two referees, should be sent to: Prof. Robert Drummond, Acting Chair, Department of Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, Faculty of Arts, York University, North York, Ont. M3J 1P3.

Application deadline is December 15, 1992.

York University is implementing a policy of employment equity, including affirmative action for women faculty. In accordance with Canadian immigration requirements, this advertisement is directed to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

Aging Jews in North Bay see end to thriving area

BY SHELDON KIRSHNER

NORTH BAY —
(First of two parts)

Back in the 1960s, 1970s, when North Bay's Jewish community was at its height, 50 to 60 Jewish families lived in this rather attractive northern Ontario town.

"We had a very thriving, healthy community," recalled Max Back, 70, a dentist.

Since then, the community has dwindled to some 20 families, and prospects are not bright.

"We're disappearing," lamented Herb Brown, president of North Bay's sole synagogue, Sons of Jacob, and a member of one of its oldest families.

"We're an aging community and that's a real problem for us," explained Morley Daiter, North Bay's 58-year-old chief administrator. "It's a matter of time, 10 to 15 years, before North Bay ceases to be a viable Jewish community, although there'll always be Jews here."

The signs of deterioration abound.

Main Street, North Bay's chief thoroughfare, once had a plethora of Jewish shopkeepers. Today, they're all gone. The last Jewish-owned-and operated store, Himmel's Ladies' Wear, closed in February 1990.

Manny (Mendel) Gurevitch, a longtime resident of Russian ancestry who was born in Krugersdorf and raised in Kirkland Lake, vividly remembers the past.

"The time was, on Main St., that when the Jewish High Holidays were observed, the street, for all intents and purposes, was dead."

Northern communities like North Bay were established and nurtured by peddlars and merchants, and when they retired or died, their children, who had entered the professions, had no interest in carrying on. "It was better to be a doctor, dentist or lawyer," said Back.

And in virtually every instance, their offspring moved to larger centres in Ontario or the rest of Canada after graduating from university. A framed photograph of the 1970-71 Talmud Torah class at Sons of Jacob tells the story succinctly. Of 28 kids in the photo, not one resides in North Bay today.

"There's nothing to come back for," said Harry Freeman, 71, a former scrap dealer who arrived in North Bay in 1950 via Toronto and Ukraine.

Compared to Toronto, Montreal or Ottawa, opportunities are limited in North Bay, a town of 54,000. What's more, the chances of finding a Jewish spouse here are slim.

While everyone agrees that North Bay is a great place to raise children, what with its beautiful natural surroundings along the shore of Lake Nipissing, no one expects them to stay on after adulthood.

There are always exceptions, of course, and Marty Brown, Herb Brown's son, is a striking example. Brown, 40, treasurer of Sons of Jacob, and, together with his father, a pillar of the community, intends to remain in North Bay. Indeed, he believes that the Jewish community has the potential to grow.

But Marty Brown's 15 year-old son, Shawn, has no interest in working in his grandfather's automotive and industrial supply chain, the largest in northern Ontario. He wants to be an architect, and he'd rather live in a city where "there are more Jews."

The community's decline is also reflected in the fact that North Bay's last fulltime rabbi, a Hungarian Jew, left in 1986, after some four years.

For a while, North Bay was served by a rabbi it shared with nearby Sudbury. But in 1991, after about one year, he, too, departed. "We can't offer the kind of amenities rabbis need and want," said Daiter, who's originally from Kenora, Ontario. "It's not just a question of economics."

Since the departure of the rabbi, Jews in North Bay have hired a cantor for the high holidays, and the Talmud Torah teacher has been a young Israeli woman who's married to a Canadian. But no one knows how long she will stay.

Regular Sabbath services at Sons of Jacob haven't been held in about five years, and under these circumstances, there are those who contend that the building should be sold. Dedicated in the mid-1920s, when the community was still growing, Sons of Jacob is a modest brick structure off Main St., painted light yellow with decorative wood panelling and Stars of David gracing its windows.

Gurevitch, who's house chairman of Sons of Jacob, explained that maintenance costs have become prohibitive. In his view, the congregation would be better off without the building and in rented quarters.

Another sign of the times is that the local B'nai Brith chapter has gone out of existence, and that membership in Hadassah is drastically down. When Helena Brown, a Torontonian, moved to North Bay one decade ago, Hadassah boasted of some 30 members, compared to about 18 women today.

Despite the demographics, the Jews of North Bay continue to make their presence felt.

•Herb Brown was former chairman of St. Joseph's General Hospital (a Catholic institution), head of the Chamber of Commerce and honored by the Kiwanis Club as Man of the Year. At present, he is chairman of Nipissing University College's foundation.

•Marty Brown, an officer of Canadian Jewish Congress, sits on the board of Nipissing University College and is fundraising chairman of the North Bay Symphony.

•Ray Sweig, a businessman, is vice-chairman of St. Joseph's and is likely to be its next chairman.

•Morris Brown was deputy mayor in the 1960s, while Peter Baker was an alderman until recently.

Jews in North Bay, from left: Manny (Mendel) Gurevitch, Ray Sweig, Morley Daiter, Herb Brown and Marty Brown (Sheldon Kirshner photo)

Montrealer wins custody case

MONTREAL —

The Supreme Court of Israel awarded Stephen Foxman of Montreal full custody of his three daughters. The children's mother, Shoshana Foxman, kidnapped them last March and took them with her to Israel after her ex-husband was awarded custody by a Quebec Court.

Foxman, 38, a caterer, went to Israel in July to launch court proceedings against his ex-wife, 42, a convert to Judaism who reportedly became ultra-religious and joined an Orthodox community in Israel.

During testimony in courts both here and Israel, she was described as having tried to "brainwash" the three girls — Rivkah, 11, Sarah, 9, and Rachel, 7 — into hating their father.

Shoshana Foxman's appeal was rejected by the Israeli Supreme Court. After the decision, she and the children could not be located.

They were discovered four days later at the airport where Shoshana Foxman was apprehended by police after trying to put the children alone on a plane for Paris.

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D CHARADE 1.3	231	
E APPLAUSE 1.8	294	
F APPLAUSE 1.8 P8	322	
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Therefore a Counselor of C.B.T. Wirtschaftsberatung GmbH. Berlin and Sonex Incorporation, Zurich intends to visit the U.S.A. and Canada towards the middle of December 1992.

For further information please call or fax no. (Israel) 00972-3-5610660

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Calgary Jewish Community Council
Calgary Jewish Centre

The Calgary Jewish Community is searching for a dynamic individual to serve as its **Executive Director.** Responsible to the Boards of Directors, the individual serves as the chief operating officer of the Council and Centre. The Community Council and the Centre are outstanding agencies recognized throughout North America.

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The new Executive Director is a hands on administrator capable of managing a large Staff and budgets totalling more than $2.5 million; a creative programmer; and has strong fundraising skills and a commitment to working with volunteers. The position offers an exciting environment in which to work and is available immediately.

Send a complete resume with references, in confidence, to: **Bruce R. Libin, Q.C., Co-Chairman, Search Committee, c/o Bennett Jones Verchere, 4500 Bankers Hall East, 855-2nd Street S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2P 4K7.** Deadline for applications: **January 4, 1993.**

World

CJN Exclusive

Larry King

He's been called the Muhammad Ali of the broadcast industry. His nightly interview show on the Cable News Network, Larry King Live, is CNN's number one program. He's been described as more articulate than many of his guests and any politician. In short, Larry King has earned his wings as America's master communicator. In addition to the CNN spot, he hosts The Larry King Show nightly over the Mutual Broadcasting System, a radio network, and writes a weekly column for U.S.A. Today.

For 30 years, King has been America's most respected talk show host, a field with more than a few littered bodies. According to The Guinness Book of World Records, King holds the milestone for most interviews — roughly 30,000 — and has logged more national radio hours than anyone.

Whether it's actors, politicians, cultural figures, world leaders, scientists or the odd eccentric, King possesses his own brand of interviewing skills: straightforward but kibitzy, hard but not antagonistic.

Born Larry Zeiger in 1933 in Brooklyn, the son of Russian-Jewish immigrants, King's career began in 1957 at a tiny Miami radio station. He hasn't looked back since, and has won a host of accolades, including the coveted Peabody Award and Broadcaster of the Year.

King was in Toronto last week as guest speaker at the 44th annual Negev Dinner, sponsored by the Jewish National Fund.

CJN reporter Ron Csillag spoke with King via telephone prior to the JNF dinner.

CJN: *Now that the campaign for U.S. president is over, have you settled back into your old routine?*

King: My life hasn't changed. We travelled a lot to interview the candidates but basically I still do the same thing. This [the candidates' interviews] was a case of what went right. Now, we're getting people on as the transition takes place. We'll have people on from the cabinet. Bill Clinton told me he'll definitely go on my show every six months. Obviously, having the candidates on every night was very exciting. Then there's the excitement of a new presidency. I've had awards banquets and received honorary doctorates. There's a lot of spinoff and I'm enjoying it.

CJN: *Ross Perot said you have the most important job in America. What do you think of that?*

King: I was thrilled when he said that. I don't know if it's the most important but I sure have a job I love. It's wonderful to be paid well to do something you love and to communicate with so many people and to touch a wide variety of bases.

CJN: *Of the three major presidential candidates, who impressed you most?*

King: Clinton was easily the most knowledgeable. He was *so* bright. He's a born politician. Perot was wonderful because he said whatever came to his mind and spoke in excellent soundbites. People digested him well. Bush was wonderful because he's president and because I had a knack for getting him to be very human and opening him up a lot. I enjoyed all three. And I liked the vice-presidential candidates. [Vice-president-elect Al] Gore's an old friend. [Vice-President Dan] Quayle's always interesting. I never interviewed [Perot's running mate, Admiral James Stockdale], but I would have liked to.

CJN: *Some accused you of having been a little too soft on Bush...*

King: Not at all. We went all around everything. Those accusations don't bother me. I have a style. My style is inquisitive. I'm not confrontational and I've never been. I don't like confrontational interviews. I don't think you learn anything. If you get a guest defensive and hostile, that's the best way not to learn anything. Throughout my career, I've learned an awful lot about a lot of people by asking good questions and certainly we made a lot of news this year. We were the first to have the president talk about Clinton as a traitor. We were the first to have Quayle talk about abortion, Perot talk about running, Gore talk about his child's accident and its after-effects.

I sure made a lot of news for someone who supposed to ask soft questions. I think I ask good questions. They're incisive. I listen to the answers. I follow up on the answers. I don't go on the air saying I'm going to conduct the perfect interview tonight. I go on to do the best I can. I'm not [ABC News reporter] Sam Donaldson and Sam Donaldson is not me. I'm a friend of his and he's a friend of mine. He does his kind of journalism and I do mine.

CJN: Newsweek *magazine described you as "the symbol of the new talk-show democracy." What impact do you think you and shows like yours have on the voting public?*

King: I'd have to get into someone's head to know that, so I don't know the answer. I assume it has enormous impact in attention-getting. I think Perot changed the ball game. When he appeared on Feb. 20 and said that if he could get on ballots in enough states, he'd run, that changed the picture forever on the way people will run and hold office. The fact Clinton will come on our show frequently is an indication that you can go directly to the people. I would guess the impact is enormous in that you are seeing candidates up close and personal, able to talk to them on the phone and see them react to different situations. So not only do you see them landing at the airport and doing the soundbite, but you see them on *Donahue* or *Larry King Live*. All this is for the good. As for the impact, I would assume it's enormous but I can't prove it changed one vote.

CJN: The New Yorker *recently said that Clinton's promise to appear on your show was rash because he'll be reviled for keeping it or for breaking it.*

King: He'll be reviled for breaking it because you shouldn't break promises. That article was written by the new editor of [*The New Yorker*'s] "Talk of the Town" section and he's from Great Britain. He wasn't here for any of the campaign. A friend of mine at *The New Yorker* told me they were embarrassed by that article. I would be too. Presidents should absolutely go on programs. There's no such thing as being too presidential. I hope Clinton doesn't forget his roots. If you forget who got you there, you ain't there.

CJN: *So you don't think the dignity of the presidency is at stake.*

King: Nah. Perot changed the game forever. And what he said very distinctly was, "The president works for us, we don't work for him. We're the board of directors. We select the president. They hold office for four years and we can remove him at our leisure." So what is presidential? They're employees. They have a high position and a lot of responsibility but they report to us. They don't report to anyone but the people. And it's a plus for a president to use a show like mine because it can be a bully pulpit. You can go on and say, "This week, I spoke to the following members of Congress. This is a very important bill. Please contact them." Hey, what a way to do it! The president *should* talk to the nation. He works for us. I think politics has changed forever and for the better.

CJN: *You've interviewed something like 30,000 people throughout your career. Is there anyone who stands out as the most memorable?*

King: That's really hard. When I was 25 years old, I interviewed Eleanor Roosevelt and Adlai Stevenson. Frank Sinatra was memorable, [so was] early Muhammad Ali, John Steinbeck, Bobby Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Malcolm X.

If I sat down and made a list of the most memorable people I've had a chance to interview, it would be endless. Sinatra's the perfect guest, though, because he fits all the bills you want. He's emotional, passionate. He can explain what he does very well. He's charming, he's angry, self-deprecating, everything you want. Just the perfect guest.

CJN: *Who was the most difficult interview?*

King: Probably Robert Mitchum, the actor. I like him but he doesn't think in the abstract. He gives very short, concise answers, sometimes one word. I find myself asking 100 questions in 20 minutes. Yet, we've had him on twice. I like him. There's something about him that twinkles. But I think he's putting me on.

CJN: *Recently, you had a show featuring two non-racist skinheads and a live hook-up to a Ku Klux Klan leader in Denver. It seemed like a difficult show for you to do. Was it?*

King: Very. I hate prejudice. I was raised without it. I've got a lot of faults but I've never pre-judged anyone. People have asked me all my life what I'd do if my daughter got engaged to a black man. Fine, I say, as long as he's a good guy. I've never understood why skin pigmentation made a difference. And being a Jew, especially ... all Jews should know that. When a Jew is prejudiced, that loses me altogether. I never liked Rabbi Meir Kahane. I interviewed him a lot and thought he was a prejudiced man.

The worst thing I can be in an interview is emotionally involved because then I lose the balance I bring to a show. So it's very hard when I speak to [someone like former KKK leader and presidential candidate] David Duke and be fair, but I try.

CJN: *You seemed pretty close to pulling the plug on the KKK leader in Denver...*

King: Yeah, sure, because prejudice is obvious stupidity and indefensible. I've never heard a good defence of prejudice or segregation. I've never heard a logical reason for them. I can give you a hundred reasons against them, and [having] nothing to do with morality. It's economically stupid. It's dumb for the Arab nations not to make Israel a partner. That small piece of land, the Middle East, could be the second strongest entity in the world if they got together in a partnership.

CJN: *Last May, you and your wife visited Israel for the first time. Can you describe the trip?*

King: It was the event of our lives. Can't wait 'till I go back. Jerusalem was the best city I've ever been to. I had a great time, met with all the Israeli leaders. I went to the West Bank and had dinner at [Palestinian leader] Hanan Ashrawi's house. On one day, I had dinner with Hanan Ashrawi and the next, had lunch with [Likud MK] Ariel Sharon. I felt like Kissinger. But I had a great time and the people were wonderful. Never had a boring moment. I loved the food, the atmosphere, the smell, I loved everything. Best time I ever had.

I'll never forget this: We went to the Wailing Wall. I'd never been there. My fingers are touching the brick. Next to me was a very old rabbi, with the black coat and long beard. He's praying and rocking back and forth. Suddenly, he looks at me and asks, "So what's with Perot?" Then I walked into Yitzhak Shamir's office and the first thing he said to me was, "Who's Murphy Brown?"

CJN: *Did you have a traditional Jewish upbringing?*

King: I did. My father died when I was 10 but I was bar mitzvah and we had a kosher home. My mother never got to see Israel. She died when she was 76.

CJN: *What memorable Jewish or Israeli leaders have you had on the show?*

King: I've had Golda Meir, Yigal Allon, all the early leaders. I guess the only one I never met was David Ben-Gurion.

CJN: *Is there anyone you've declined to have on the show?*

King: No, but there are people I would have liked to do. I never got to do Sir Laurence Olivier. I would have loved to interview him. I would love to interview Al Pacino. Good actors fascinate me. I'd love to get Fidel Castro before he dies, and Mikhail Gorbachev.

CJN: *Has your health affected your pace?*

King: Since the heart surgery, I've felt very good. I have very good stamina. I enjoy doing what I do. It's not pressure. Coming to Toronto to address a group of people is not pressure. Going on the air tonight is not pressure. Pressure is a traffic jam. If the airport is mobbed, that's pressure.

CJN: *What drives you? What philosophy do you live by?*

King: I have an insatiable curiousity. Bertrand Russell, when he was in his 90s, was asked at a dinner table, "You've won the Nobel Prize. You're a mathematician, philosopher, globalist, pacifist, genius. What do you know? What can you state as a fact?" And he said, "The only thing I know is that I don't know."

My curiousity is what drives me. I want to know why the pilot wants to fly the plane, why the fireman wants to fight the fire, why the leader wants to lead, why the policeman wants to police. I want to know all those things. And it's been insatiable in me all my life. What is the quarterback thinking? What is the hockey goalie thinking? I'm 59 years old and when I'm at a hockey game, I'm still trying to get into that goalie's head.

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TEL AVIV RABBI RULES AGAINST FUR

Tel Aviv Chief Sephardic Rabbi Haim David Halevi recently issued a *psak* (ruling) forbidding the killing of animals for their furs and the wearing of their skins, because this constitutes *tsaar ba'alei chayyim* (the suffering of living creatures), which is a violation of Jewish law.

The trapping and raising of living creatures to be killed for their fur in order to pander to luxury and conspicious consumption is a cruel betrayal of the values the Jewish tradition has long honored and upheld.

The code of Jewish Law states: "It is forbidden, according to the law of the Torah, to inflict pain upon any living creature. On the contrary, it is our duty to relieve the pain of any creature . . . ."

Animals caught in steel-jaw leghold traps suffer slow, agonizing deaths. Some freeze to death, chew off their legs to escape, or are attacked by predators. Those who survive the traps often are bludgeoned or strangled to death by the trappers, careful not to damage their fur. Millions of animals not wanted by trappers, including birds, cats and dogs, die in traps each year and are discarded as "trash animals." Many trapped animals leave behind dependent youngsters who are doomed to starvation.

Raising animals on "ranches" for their fur is no less cruel. Besides the close confinement and unnatural living conditions which so many animals must endure, they often suffer hideous deaths by electrocution and suffocation. Foxes and lynx are electrocuted with rods thrust up their anuses. Minks have their necks broken or are crudely gassed and asphyxiated.

- We call upon all Jews to cease buying and wearing fur, whether stripped from animals caught in traps in the wild, or from those caged and then killed for sale and profit.
- We call upon rabbis and lay synagogue and organizational leaders to ban the wearing of fur in all synagogues, temples and community centres, as well as at organizational events.
- We call upon Jewish organizations and their leaders to cease using furs as prizes or in fashion shows as part of fundraising for any cause or project, however worthy.
- We call upon Jewish educators to impart Rabbi Halevi's ruling to their students as part of instilling in our youth the Jewish values of compassion and respect for all creatures.

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Jewish underground believed behind attack on Arabs

BY HERB KEINON

JERUSALEM —

Reactions in the settlements to the grenade explosion in the Old City that killed 62-year-old Abed Razak Adkaidek and wounded eight other Arabs were not so different from reactions elsewhere in Israel.

Feelings ranged from shock and sorrow on the one hand, to an understanding of the motive and a belief that the Arabs deserved a "taste of their own medicine" on the other.

But reactions in the settlements attract more attention than those in Tel Aviv or Afula, because it was in the settlements that a Jewish underground formed more than 10 years ago. And it is in the settlements that constant warnings are heard of "hotheads" who will take the law into their own hands if the security situation deteriorates.

The police have already brought in two Kach activists for questioning, and seem convinced that the crime was committed by Jewish extremists. But even before a suspect for the incident had been fingerprinted and formally charged, and even before it has been determined with absolute certainty that a Jew was behind the attack, there was much speculation over whether this portends the start of a new underground.

Orit Rappaport of Shiloh, one of the driving forces behind the setting up of a quasi-settlement at Rehalim last year, thinks not. Rappaport, whose husband, Ira, spent 15 months in prison for his role in the underground, said that conditions have changed over the last 10 years.

"If the feeling then was that the army wasn't doing what it could to provide security, the feeling today is that the army is much more involved," she said.

"If Jews threw the grenade, it is shocking," she said. "Attacking innocent people is not the way, it only creates additional problems. It will not deter the Arabs from attacks, but will cause the exact opposite. This is damaging in every way. It stirs up the hatred of the Arabs, and also causes hatred among us as well."

One former member of the underground, who did not want his name printed, said the question of a new underground is for him not so much a moral one as one of strategy, a question of effectiveness. "Hitting randomly at Arabs doesn't help anybody at all," he said.

He said there is no underground in the works in the settlements. "It takes two things to form an underground: a willingness to do it and the ability to carry it out. You may have some on the fringes who are willing, but it does not mean they are able to carry it out."

Yehiel Leiter, of the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, said the incident was a result of people feeling cornered.

"A vacuum in personal security is going to lead certain people to try to fill that vacuum. When people feel they have their backs against the wall they often respond irresponsibly."

Leiter said that several times in the past few months settlement leaders had warned government and army leaders that a deteriorating security situation in the territories would probably lead to people taking the law into their own hands.

"There is a feeling that you can't turn on the radio without hearing about a Jew being killed," he said.

When asked if he regrets the grenade attack, Leiter said he is sorry about violence. "I'm sorry about people feeling the need to operate in this manner," he said.

Rabbi Eliezer Melamed, the secretary of the Rabbinical Forum in Judea, Samaria and Gaza, complained that the media have paid so much attention to the crime while "ignoring" the hundreds of Arabs who have been killed in recent months by other Arabs.

"Where is the sense of proportion?" he asked. "Instead of concentrating on this incident, the press should look at us and compliment us on our restraint."

Melamed condemned the attack, saying that it does not help anything and only divides the nation. He said that the Rabbinical Forum called upon people several months ago not to take matters into their own hands, and would not repeat the call now.

Melamed said this incident forebodes a "second coming" of the underground. "This is not something coming from the settlement mainstream, but rather from the fringes," he said. "Last time, the underground came out of the mainstream, albeit the right wing of the mainstream. This time we are talking about fringes."

Gabi Butbul, the head of the Karnei Shomron District Council, agreed that those advocating violence against Arabs are on the fringes of settlement society. But he said he had heard lately more and more people saying that the only way to get the government to do more to enhance Jewish security in the territories is to attack Arabs.

However, such attacks, according to Bob Lang, another official in the Council of Jewish Communities, will only boomerang against the movement. "If people in Judea and Samaria are looked upon as right-wing religious fanatics who take the law into their own hands . . . nobody will be willing to support us."

Anti-Semitic attitudes examined

NEW YORK (JTA) —

Nearly a fifth of all Americans — almost 40 million adults — hold attitudes the Anti-Defamation League describes as strongly anti-Semitic, according to a new survey conducted on its behalf.

The national poll on American attitudes towards Jews, ADL's first major study of this kind since 1964, revealed a hard-core group that embraces a wide range of stereotypes about Jews. That group represented 29 percent of Americans when the last survey was conducted.

"It boggles the mind that in 1992 a significant segment of American society has bought into the classical canards and stereotypes that allege Jewish power," said Abraham Foxman, ADL national director.

Respondents' degree of anti-Semitism was measured against what ADL calls the "index of anti-Semitic belief," a series of 11 statements with which the person being surveyed was asked to agree or disagree.

The 11 statements included: "Jews stick together more than other Americans"; "Jews always like to be at the head of things"; "Jews are more loyal to Israel than America"; "Jews have too much power in the U.S. today"; "Jews have too much control and influence on Wall Street"; "Jews have too much power in the business world."

The fifth of respondents considered "hard-core haters" by ADL agreed with six or more of the statements.

The moderately anti-Semitic (39 percent) agreed with as few as two or as many as five of the statements, and those who agreed with none or one — a 41 percent plurality of respondents — are considered not anti-Semitic by ADL.

Twice as many African-Americans fell into the hard-core category (34 percent) as white Americans (17 percent), although, as in the general population, the overall level of anti-Semitism among blacks has declined over the last three decades.

"We are deeply troubled by the extent of anti-Semitic attitudes held by African-Americans which the survey revealed," said Foxman. "The black-Jewish relationship is a long-standing and special one, and we feel pained by the results."

The study also found that anti-Semitic beliefs are more likely to be found among the following groups: those over age 65, those who received a high-school education or less, and blue-collar or semi-skilled workers.

Anti-Semitic beliefs were least prevalent among those under age 40 and those who are college-educated.

State seeks to appeal rape case

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

The infamous Kibbutz Shomrat rape case, in which six young men were acquitted of raping a 14-year-old, took a new twist last week when the state prosecutor appealed to the Supreme Court to overturn the verdict.

The incident, which occurred in 1988, received unusually widespread coverage in the local media and prompted a nationwide debate on a subject that had long been considered taboo.

In his November 2 verdict, Haifa District Court Judge Micha Lindenstrauss said the prosecution had failed to prove "beyond a reasonable doubt" that the girl had not consented to have sex with the defendants.

The judge noted that the girl's testimony was at times inconsistent, and that she did not immediately tell her parents about the incident. Another consideration, he said, was the fact that the victim did not cry out when the alleged rape took place.

Following the judge's ruling, which caused a public outcry, several women's advocacy groups called for an appeal on the grounds that the case had been decided by one judge rather than three. Until last year, all cases of rape, armed robbery and murder were tried before a three-judge panel.

"All serious crimes should be heard by three judges," Judge Hannah Avnor, former president of the Tel Aviv District Court, told the *Jerusalem Post* the day after the verdict.

In its appeal, the state is seeking the conviction of the defendants on charges of rape, attempted rape, sexual assault and violent extortion.

In its appeal, the state said, "The court erred in that it did not determine unequivocally that the actions of the accused were performed without consent, and this is given the fact that we are speaking of a 14 1/2-year-old-girl who was placed under pressure by many persons older than she, who treated her in a manner that negated her will."

Germany bans extremist group

BONN (JTA) —

Amid mounting international outcry over neo-Nazi violence within its borders, Germany has announced a ban on a right-wing extremist group.

Shortly before the ban was announced, police began a nationwide crackdown on leaders of the group, the National Front, one of a number of explicitly anti-Semitic organizations in Germany.

German Jews, who have spoken out against the outbreak of violence, have reported an increased interest in immigration to Israel.

Applications for aliyah have soared sixfold, according to the Frankfurt representative of the Jewish Agency.

Judith Zamir said her office handled more than 200 applications for immigration to Israel over the past four weeks, up from fewer than 30 in a typical month. She said they came predominantly from Jews aged 18 to 35.

Many Jews are also investigating a move to the United States or other countries, according to a German television report.

But Ignatz Bubis, chairman of the Central Council of Jews in Germany, said Jews had no reason to leave the country and only a small number were in fact doing so, according to news reports.

In moving against the National Front, police seized weapons and propaganda material from the homes of over 100 known activists in various parts of the country. The ban may be extended soon to another neo-Nazi group called the German Alternative, press reports said.

Bonn is also considering a move to strip neo-Nazis of the right to demonstrate, officials said. Government determination to demonstrate opposition to the tide of right-wing violence was reflected in a radio interview with German Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

Germany must do everything to put "the right-wing rabble" in "their place and hit these culprits with the full force of the law," said Kohl, whose government has been criticized for not cracking down on the neo-Nazis.

His admonition was backed up by a demonstration by 200,000 Germans in Hamburg, where right-wing arsonists killed three Turks in nearby Moelln.

The demonstration followed an attack by vandals on a Jewish memorial in Gottingen, in western Germany. Critics faulted police for releasing two young neo-Nazis, aged 23 and 21, after detaining them in connection with the attack.

CJF forms Canadian division

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

The Canadian contingent in the continent-wide Council of Jewish Federations (CJF) has forged a new working agreement with the CJF that it says gives it more autonomy and allows it to better serve Canadian constituencies.

The agreement was reached at the recently-concluded General Assembly of the CJF, said George Wasserstein, the Toronto-based chairman of the National Planning and Budgeting Conference (NBC), the forum where the 10 Canadian federations meet to discuss allocations of funds to national and international organizations.

The new working agreement will augment the ability to access CJF services and deal with concerns that are unique to Canada, Wasserstein said.

Under the agreement, the Canadian Service Committee of CJF becomes known as CJF Canada, said Peter Wolkove, the organization's president.

CJF Canada should now be better able to serve Canadian federations on issues that are unique to Canada, such as endowments, as well as on those matters that have a specifically Canadian spin, he said.

"We have a different intermarriage problem and must address it differently," said Wolkove, past president of the Montreal federation. "Our campus groups also operate differently [than theirs], so we must deal with it from a Canadian point of view," he added.

The agreement is expected to result in the addition of a new professional staff person and support staff, Wasserstein said.

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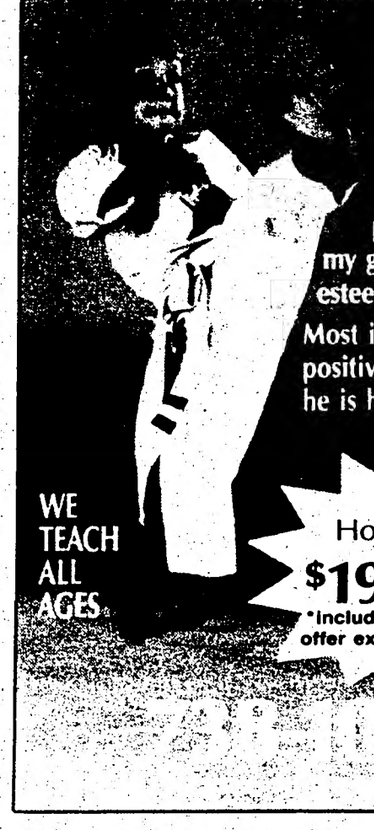

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Masorti Movement to ordain women

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

The Masorti Movement, the Israeli branch of Conservative Judaism, has decided to ordain women as rabbis.

In taking this far-reaching decision, the Israeli movement and its Seminary for Judaic Studies in Jerusalem is following in the footsteps of the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, which resolved to ordain women in 1983.

Orthodox Rabbi Shlomo Goren, a former Chief Rabbi of Israel, reacted contemptuously by suggesting that the Masorti movement was "taking its lead from the Anglican Church."

That church recently took a controversial and much-publicized decision to admit women into its clergy. Goren said the Masorti decision meant the movement was "distancing itself still more from the Torah, the Talmud and Jewish Orthodoxy."

The Israeli movement's decision will be formalized December 14, at a meeting of the Jerusalem seminary's board of trustees.

Meanwhile, however, the first would-be woman rabbinical graduate, French-born Valerie Stessin, has been admitted to the fourth-year rabbinical class, and is scheduled to be ordained with her male classmates at the end of the current academic year.

Stessin, 28, said that she believed the decision to admit women would strengthen the Israeli movement, "since people will see that we are doing what we believe in."

The U.S. decision led to a defection of several leading faculty-members from JTS, among them Talmudic scholar David Weiss Halivni. This group and other rabbis have organized a Union for Traditional Judaism, which has been at odds with the mainstream Conservative Rabbinical Assembly ever since, and has recently launched its own rival theological seminary.

But well-placed sources at the top of the Masorti movement said that no such split is likely here. They said that even rabbis uncomfortable with the ordination of women would not move to the UTJ, because on the whole, the Masorti movement in Israel is more traditional than American Conservative Judaism when it comes to halacha, or Jewish law.

This leaning was highlighted by the recent decision of the Masorti movement not to adopt the American position permitting worshippers to drive to synagogue on the Sabbath.

When the Jerusalem seminary board meets for its formal decision, it will have before it a number of halachic responsa, or legal rulings, prepared by members of the movement's halacha committee.

While five of the seven rabbis asked to express their positions came out in favor of ordaining women, they were divided on the ancillary question of whether to also overturn traditional restrictions on women serving on religious courts and as legal witnesses.

Journalists lose credentials

JERUSALEM (JTA) —

Israel has revoked the press credentials of foreign journalists who published details of an army training accident without first submitting them to the military censor.

The Foreign Press Association said it would fight the "deplorable action" taken against Carol Rosenberg of the *Miami Herald* and Ian Black of *The Guardian* in Britain after they filed stories on a Nov. 5 army exercise in the Negev, in which five members of an elite army unit died and six more were wounded when a missile was fired accidentally.

Four other correspondents have been summoned to the office of the military censor to receive the lesser penalty of a rebuke for similar violations.

The Government Press Office, which withdrew Rosenberg's and Black's accreditation said it suspected information on the ill-fated military accident at the Tze'elim training grounds may have been "deliberately leaked" to correspondents by insiders anxious to broaden public knowledge of the disaster.

The disciplinary actions come amid calls for changes in censorship procedures that date back 50 years to a pre-electronic era. Members of the press want a policy that takes into account the technologies of instant communication.

Adding another note of complexity to the debate is what has been dubbed the war of the generals inside the army itself over responsibility for the accidental firing of the missile during the exercise at Tze'elim.

An army board of inquiry singled out Maj. Gen. Amiram Levin and two other officers for discipline. But military sources began leaking information that the Maj. Gen. Uri Saguy, chief of military intelligence, had been present at the exercise and should also carry responsibility for what happened there.

Both Black and Rosenberg have denied they were the ones who revealed the fact of Saguy's presence or the report that the exercise was in preparation for the planned assassination of a leader of the Islamic fundamentalist Hezbollah in Lebanon.

They claim their information came from Israeli sources, who deliberately leaked it so that Israelis could learn of it. Israeli newspapers are able to cite news items reported abroad without submitting them to censorship.

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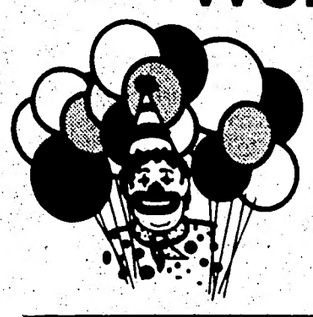

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The News in Brief

Jews arrive from Abkhazia

JERUSALEM — A group of 54 Jewish refugees from the restive breakaway province of Abkhazia, in the formerly Soviet republic of Georgia, have arrived in Israel on a special flight arranged by the Jewish Agency.

Jewish Agency Chairman Simcha Dinitz said that out of 1,200 Jews in the Abkhazian capital of Sukhumi before the fighting, only 350 now remain there.

Those who did not make it to Israel have taken refuge in nearby republics and have contacted Jewish Agency representatives requesting their help to leave for Israel.

* * *

There's gas in Galilee

TEL AVIV — The Abjac Mazal oil prospecting company announced that it has struck methane gas in "relatively large quantities" at a drilling site in northern Galilee.

Methane is viewed as a far cleaner energy source than the butane gas commonly used for cooking in Israel. Butane is a byproduct of petroleum.

Further testing is needed to establish the size of the deposit and its commercial viability at the site near Kibbutz Gonen in the Hula Valley.

* * *

Centre to promote trade

PARIS — Francois Mitterrand and Chaim Herzog have officially inaugurated the France-Israel House, a centre for the promotion of bilateral commerical ties, located near the Arch of Triumph in the heart of Paris.

A first meeting of a club of French and Israeli industrialists was held there Nov. 19.

The Israeli president raised the issue of the Arab boycott against Israel. Mitterrand responded by recalling that he had pushed through legislation opposing the Arab ban on trade with Israel.

France-Israel House is designed as a window for Israeli industry and a meeting point for industrialists from both countries.

* * *

Abba Eban centre opened

JERUSALEM — A centre for the study of Israel's diplomatic history named after Abba Eban, the country's doyen of diplomacy, opened recently at the Hebrew University.

The centre will house Eban's voluminous personal archives, as well as audio and video material collected by the former foreign minister in connectioon with his public televised series and new book published in the United States.

The centre's present plans, he said, provide for an annual conference that will include key figures active in various periods of Israeli diplomacy. The centre will also present seminars, lectures, and house a large library on Israeli diplomatic history.

* * *

Israel wants spy satellite

NEW YORK — Israel is pressing the United States to permit the building of a receiving station, or "downlink," capable of receiving satellite transmissions from U.S. spy satellites, but U.S. officials continue to oppose such an arrangement.

Citing administration and U.S. intelligence sources, the *Washington Times* reported that Israel gets access to spy satellite transmissions, but not "real-time" data, and information must first be obtained from American government transmitters in Colorado and Australia.

Officials are pushing for direct access to warn of any possible enemy attack, especially to guard against missile attacks.

The administration had promised Israel such access only on a "crisis-contingency basis," the paper said, allowing the Israelis to receive the information faster during wartime or if there is a real threat of war.

* * *

Bonds to close 13 offices

NEW YORK — State of Israel Bonds has announced the closing of 13 regional offices nationwide as part of a "corporate reorganization" designed to meet budget constraints.

The Israel Bonds offices that will close Dec. 31 include those in Denver; Elizabeth, N.J.; Albany; New Haven; Orlando, Fla.; Memphis, Nashville; San Diego; Indianapolis; and Norfolk, Va.

Three satellite offices in Buffalo, Cincinnati and St. Petersburg, Fla. will also be closed. In addition, staff will be reduced in some of the offices surviving the cut. Israel Bonds will have 30 offices remaining outside New York, plus a national headquarters and a local office in New York.

Ironically, this news comes on the heels of the recent announcement that Israel Bonds was showing record sales of $1 billion for 1992.

Deal reached in burial dispute

JERUSALEM — Government archaeologists, under pressure from haredi, or fervently Orthodox Jews, have agreed to rebury 2,000-year-old bones together with their ancient coffins.

But they said their agreement to do so under a compromise plan "will not be considered a precedent" for the disposition of sarcophagi and ossuaries found at future archeological digs.

The agreement followed the outbreak of rioting among haredi communities in Jerusalem and Bnei Brak over excavation of ancient burial caves in French Hill.

Archaeologists failed to win acceptance for their proposal to reinter the bones alone and retain the ancient coffins for study.

Negotiators also agreed a joint committee would be set up to monitor action on any more finds at the French Hill site, where a road is due to be built.

* * *

Cohen to rejoin Likud

JERUSALEM — Former Tehiya MK Geula Cohen is returning to the Likud.

Cohen told Israel Television reporters the only way to stop the implementatioon of the Camp David Accords is for the political right to unite.

The Tehiya has basically ceased to function after failing to get a seat in the election, prompting Cohen to join the Likud she quit in response to the Camp David peace process.

* * *

Condom sales up

JERUSALEM — The threat of AIDS has apparently begun to sink in, as sales of condoms in pharmacies around the country have increased by 30 percent during the past year.

Avi Raz, chairman of the Israel Pharmacist Association, said that most customers no longer shyly ask staffers for condoms, and women also buy them without blushing.

Condom vending machines will soon be installed outside all pharmacies, in high schools and in other public institutions.

* * *

Vandals ransack synagogue

PARIS — A synagogue in the eastern French city of Strasbourg was vandalized last week by intruders who ransacked its offices and scrawled anti-Semitic slogans on the walls.

Vandals sneaked into the Merinau synagogue and systematically smashed whatever they could find in the offices. They also daubed the walls with such slogans as "Death to the Jews" and "Hitler will kill all the Jews."

They were scared off the premises after the wife of the rabbi unexpectedly opened the door.

* * *

Italians show solidarity

ROME — Tens of thousands of Italians marched in protest against racism and anti-Semitism last week.

The march followed two more incidences involving the desecration of Jewish cemeteries where Nazi slogans were scrawled on tombstones in two small cemeteries near Como, in northern Italy.

Thousands of people, mainly students, marched through Rome, Milan, Bari and other cities to show solidarity with Italy's 30,000 Jews and to protest racist violence.

* * *

Hookers may get break

JERUSALEM — Israel's prostitutes may be able to practice their profession indoors and above board, if a bill supported by the government passes the Knesset.

Justice Minister David Libai said the spread of the sexually transmitted virus that causes AIDS lends urgency to passage of a bill that allows prostitutes to get off the streets and conduct business within the safer confines of a home or hotel room.

Libai heads a Cabinet committee that endorsed a private members' bill that would also permit prostitutes to advertise services that now are published under the guise of massage parlors and escort services.

* * *

Tumor removed from Shamir

JERUSALEM — Doctors have removed a malignant tumor from the colon of former prime minister Yitzhak Shamir. His chances for a full recovery are described as good.

Doctors said the entire tumor was removed, that it had not spread to other organs or penetrated the inside of the intestinal wall. It is "too early" to know whether he will need chemotherapy or radiotherapy, they said.

Front Line

Regional tensions simmer while waiting for Clinton

By YESHAYAHU ANUG

It was suspected from the very beginning of the peace process, now over a year old, that the parties will not be able to mobilize alone their political resources and exchange concessions without which the peace initiative will stall again. During the last two weeks the talks have not gone far and the new round is unlikely to do better.

The active prompting of the kind U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and his apparatus were providing when the American foreign policy machinery was functioning properly is missing during the lengthy interval between the two U.S. administrations. But this concerns not only the Middle East. The leaderless world scene is simmering dangerously in many places. Events in other areas are even less predictable than in the Middle East.

Think only of the ongoing turmoil in Russia, where local conditions keep getting worse by the day and are approaching a showdown between President Yeltsin and the alliance of hard-communist and fascist forces.

U.S. Senator Nunn returned recently with very pessimistic impressions from an extensive visit of the former Soviet Union and accused not just his country, but the whole West, of "sleepwalking in history," that is of underestimating the international consequences of a total Russian collapse. Former president Richard Nixon went even farther and warned of a possible return to a Cold-War situation should Yeltsin lose his position.

At this stage very little is known of the attitudes and stamina of the incoming Clinton administration and how the United States might fulfill its role as the one remaining superpower in a position to affect events worldwide. America too is in a bad shape and the new president knows that he is to first turn the economy around and put America back to work. The voters will not accept that he should care too much about other people's troubles.

But meanwhile, the Mid-Eastern timebomb is ticking and even before he'll have the opportunity to formulate his own strategy for the Middle East, President-elect Clinton may have to name rather soon a special envoy to keep the peace process alive.

One way to look from Israel at the circumstances by which peace could be reached gradually is first of all to ignore the well established feeling that peace between Jews and Arabs is not obtainable at all. Once this mental effort is accomplished, two related exiomas must also be revised.

Yeshayahu Anug

The first is that whatever Israel will be prepared or forced to sacrifice for peace, the Arab world will still remain determined to attempt its destruction at some later time.

The second axioma derives from the first and says that this being so, Israel must hold all the territories and make no concessions.

All these are deeply-felt thoughts, but it is equally true that Israel will hardly be able to maintain for very much longer its hold on all the territories and the rule over their hostile and frustrated inhabitants and bear the consequences.

Not only would this be a prescription for major hostilities sooner or later, it would also undermine Israel's democratic society and destroy the Zionist hope to ingather Jews who are willing to settle in the Jewish State as well as those who may have to leave foreign lands for other than idealist reasons.

But why deny the fact that a substantial sector of the Israeli public is still unprepared to give up the territories even for a peace settlement made as safe as possible by imaginative security arrangements and other unprecedented incentives? This is a very complex political reality that must be confronted openly.

The present peace-oriented Israeli government must mobilize all its skills to continue the negotiations with the Arabs and at the same time help the public to overcome psychological barriers. It is now doing so slowly and intermittently. It's a very difficult task.

The two prctical issues which must be dealt with internally, as well as externally, are the future status of the Golan and the question of representation of the Palestinians. Now that beyond the northern frontier the Hezbollah activity has somewhat paused and in the West Bank and Gaza unrest and repression are still a matter of daily concern, Israel has to make up its mind on two tactical issues and not leave them hanging in the air any longer.

The first concerns the negotiations with Syria which had been facilitated by Israel's statement that withdrawal of forces on the Golan is possible for full peace. But they came to a practical standstill when Syria refused to specify the nature of peace it offered for even full withdrawal from the Heights.

The question is: Would an Israeli recognition of Syrian sovereignty over the Golan lead to a formula that would satisfy the political and practical interests of both sides and pave the way for local arrangements and for a peace treaty in the longer run? The answer to this difficult question seems to be positive.

In the territories the violent unrest is manipulated by both the PLO and by a wider range of peace rejection and terrorist groups of which the Islamic fundamentalist Hamas is the most influential. The PLO controls the members of the Palestinian negotiating team, while the rival groups who regard negotiating with Israel as national betrayal, are threatening their lives. This does not enhance their effectiveness at the negotiating table and their image within the Palestinian population.

Israel tolerates the PLO patronage of the delegation but refuses to negotiate with the PLO directly or to recognize the organization's legitimacy. Should elections in the territories be held, as contemplated by Israeli planners, it is by no means certain which of the rivaling groups will get the upper hand.

Precedents in the Arab environment are now favoring Islamic tendencies, compared with whom even the PLO can be regarded as relatively moderate. The question which Israel must resolve at once is whether its interests are better served by continuing the present policy vis-a-vis the PLO or by softening it.

During the visit of French President Mitterand, an outstanding friend of Israel, the issue was at the centre of French-Israeli disagreements. Prime Minister Rabin said lately, that as far as the Israeli-Palestinian context was concerned, the point of no return on the road to a settlement was passed. He also said that it will be a painful process.

What was he aiming at? Let's assume for a moment that Israel will be more flexible vis-a-vis the PLO and gradually relax its boycott. Can the PLO, can Arafat deliver? The general impression is that he can't.

Seen from the divided Arab perspective, the peace process is important but not a matter of supreme urgency. The oil producing regimes want to survive at the expense of the oil-consuming world and to be defended by it against the ruler of Baghdad and the subversion by the Iranian ayatolas. The Syrians need Western assistance after having lost Soviet support. All-including Egypt fear Islamic fundamentalism.

Regional peace could serve all these purposes, but it is impossible to contemplate without some new Israeli approach to the problem of the Palestinians. This is what we may possibly expect in the weeks ahead.

German people must accept reality of immigration

By CORNELIA SCHMALZ-JACOBSEN

Moelln, Wuppertal, Berlin — these are the landmarks of last weekend. Murder and killing have become a daily occurrence in our country. The omnipresence of brutal violence, unpredictable and unco-ordinated, that can be felt everywhere and which is spreading like wildfire, cannot be tolerated.

The fact that Turks, people from the former Yugoslavia, Vietnamese — the diversity of the list shows how crazy it is — have to fear for life and limb, the fact that they must always be prepared at least to hear insults and abuse, fills me with horror. Knowing full well that we can scarcely help, how are we to console young women who amid tears tell us of their experiences and ask "Where are we to go?"

Everyone ought to have realized by now that turning away, refusing to believe, playing down the facts which ought to have been accepted by all long ago are dangerous.

With every repetition the defiant claim that "Germany is and will remain a country friendly to foreigners" has a more hollow and strident ring to it. Such incantations are worthless where grave problems of domestic policy are concerned.

Similarly, since last weekend's attacks at the latest, the exhortation "Principiis obsta" can only be met with a shake of the head.

Asylum-seekers, foreigners and Jewish fellow-citizens are living in fear and terror. Something has gone completely wrong. Of course the majority of the population does not support the attackers — but even so they hesitate to stand up for the victims or potential victims.

And what about the public debate of the last few months? It concentrated more or less exclusively on the law on asylum. We — and here I mean both politicians and the media — thus manoeuvred ourselves into an impasse. The more complex issues of policy on foreigners remained, or, more accurately, were deliberately ignored.

It is the state's duty to counter the escalating violence with all available means. Every retreat, even the slightest sign of one (and unfortunately there are plenty of examples of these) is fatal. Half-heartedness in the face of terror is poison. But the call for sharper laws is indeed too poor a response by a democratic state based on the rule of law.

One bitter lesson of the past few months is that nationalistic narrow-mindedness, a defensive attitude towards "foreigners" is more deeply rooted in our country than we were prepared to admit, and more firmly anchored than radical left-wing ideas ever were.

At long last, expressions of solidarity and recognition have been directed to "our foreign fellow-citizens." Hopefully, every politician has by now understood that there must be an end to this playing with fire, to this leniency with the far right, trusting that voters might be retained or won over.

It is high time that the commendable example set by entrepreneurs Necker, Stihl and Murmann who repeatedly emphasized in all clarity (and with deep concern for our common future) the importance of the work done by foreigners, be followed by the federal minister of finance, for instance, in supplying the figures to prove it.

The long-awaited "kind words" to the non-Germans among us, the impressive demonstrations in Berlin and other cities, at which hundreds of thousands of people said no to violence, must be followed by action.

Action that will decide how we can live together in our society in future: with pride and confidence or with abuse and shame. What is needed is not only abhorrence of violence but more effective protection against it. Not only concern, but concrete offers: naturalization, dual nationality, resolute steps towards integration.

We are an immigration country and must take account of this. There is no sense in ignoring reality. The people, especially those who, in difficult times, have been so firmly committed to tolerance and humanity, are entitled to the truth.

Their position must be strengthened — not through short-lived gestures, but through a sound policy against indifference, against lethargy and against disinterest in the fate of our foreign neighbors.

The above article by Cornelia Schmalz-Jacobsen, member of the German Liberal Party, commissioner for issues concerning non-German citizens living in Germany, was published in the German weekly Die Zeit.

Finally, a new improved Book of Proverbs arrives

By ALLAN GOULD

Certain things are forever, such as Judaism, its Holy Books and lousy TV. Still, many people push for updating various things in our society, and — based on a recent discovery — one of those things which has been updated is our own glorious *Book of Proverbs*.

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The proverbs of Jason, the son of Jennifer —

A wise man will hear, and will increase learning, while everyone else will attempt to get elected to the synagogue board.

My son, hear the instruction of thy father, and forsake not the law of thy mother: You can't have the car, and that's final.

My son, walk not then in the way of others; for jogging hath greater popularity.

How long, ye simple one, will ye love simplicity? For network television will give you what you want unto the twentieth generation.

They shall eat of the fruit of their own way, especially on Passover, when the matzah doth turn thy colon to stone.

If thou criest after knowledge, better put aside cash. The cost of a college education now passeth beyond all understanding.

Yea, the wicked shall be cut off from the earth and the transgressors shall be rooted out of it. Then they shall runneth for public office.

Happy is the man that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding; it's probably his wife who did it for him.

When thou liest down, thou shalt not be afraid. Yet do not forget to double lock the door and set the house alarm.

Devise not Evil against thy neighbor, especially if he hath a more expensive lawyer.

Enter not into the path of the wicked, especially after dark.

Go to the ant and consider her ways. But if you want a loan, talk to your uncle Herb.

Allan Gould

Can one go upon hot coals, and his feet not be burned? Can one invest in the stock market and not be played for a fool?

Wisdom is better than rubies, but American Express is the best of them all.

Righteousness delivers from death, yet giving up smoking will also help.

The memory of the Just is blessed, but the name of the wicked shall be on many a statue across Eastern Europe.

The wicked shall not inhabit the earth, and thou believest that. Which is why I've got a condo in Bosnia I'd like to unload on thou.

He that troubles his house shall inherit the wind, as shall those who choose to renovate.

The house of the wicked shall be overthrown, but don't hold your breath.

A soft answer turneth away wrath, but a right answer getteth perfect on the exam.

Better a dinner of herbs where love is, than an ox served with hatred. Yet why cannot the Jews cooketh vegetables like the Chinese?

The thoughts of the wicked are an abomination, but the words of the wicked usually selleth best of all.

A brother offended is harder to be won than a strong city, yet an angered brother-in-law can drive you around the bend.

Whosoever findeth a good wife findeth a good thing, but to find a good husband is pretty well impossible nowadays.

And there are more proverbs, apparently — should you asketh nicely.

(Allan Gould is the author of 18 books, including THE UNORTHODOX BOOK OF JEWISH RECORDS AND LISTS and WHAT DID THEY THINK OF THE JEWS? His latest anthology, THE GREAT BIG BOOK OF CANADIAN HUMOUR, has just been released by macmillan. So buyeth a copy already. Okayeth?)

Editorial/Letters

The Canadian Jewish news

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Russian aliyah is not over

As the news focus continues to shift between outrages and atrocities in the Balkans and the upsurge of extremist neo-Nazi violence in Germany, an important development in Israel is being crowded to the periphery of Jewish concerns.

It should not.

Since the spring of this year the stream of immigrants from the former Soviet Union has ballooned. While not reaching the 20,000 a month that inundated the Jewish State between 1990 and 1991, the current rate of arrivals is quite respectable — and no less taxing to the absorption capacities of Israel.

Estimates indicate that by the end of 1992, almost 100,000 Jews will have sought refuge in Israel for economic, social and political reasons. Most of the immigrants (about 60 percent) come from Russia and Ukraine.

The New York Times reported that 40 percent are Jews from the strife-torn areas like Georgia and Tajikistan where political perturbations rather than specific anti-Semitic violence have caused them to seek new homes in Israel. They have joined a small number of Jews from Sarajevo who have emigrated to Israel for the same reasons.

While Israeli officials indicate that 90 percent of the immigrants from the current Russian wave find employment within two or three years, these statistics have been disputed by representatives of the Russian immigrant groups themselves. Moreover, there is much talk in that group, of depression, unemployment and unused professional and technical talent.

Absorbing the new arrivals is no easy task for the citizens of Israel — who should not be required to shoulder the financial burden alone. The Diaspora has the obligation to chip in with money and management skills to help Israelis cope with the tremendous challenge of absorbing the thousands of olim arriving each month.

The State of Israel is performing one of the great mitzvahs — saving human lives — but it is a mitzvah in which Jews outside of Israel should also share.

Good news for survivors

There is good news, however belated, for Jewish Holocaust survivors of East European origin. Upwards of 50,000 will be eligible for compensation payments under an accord signed last month in Bonn between Germany and the Conference of Jewish Material Claims Against Germany.

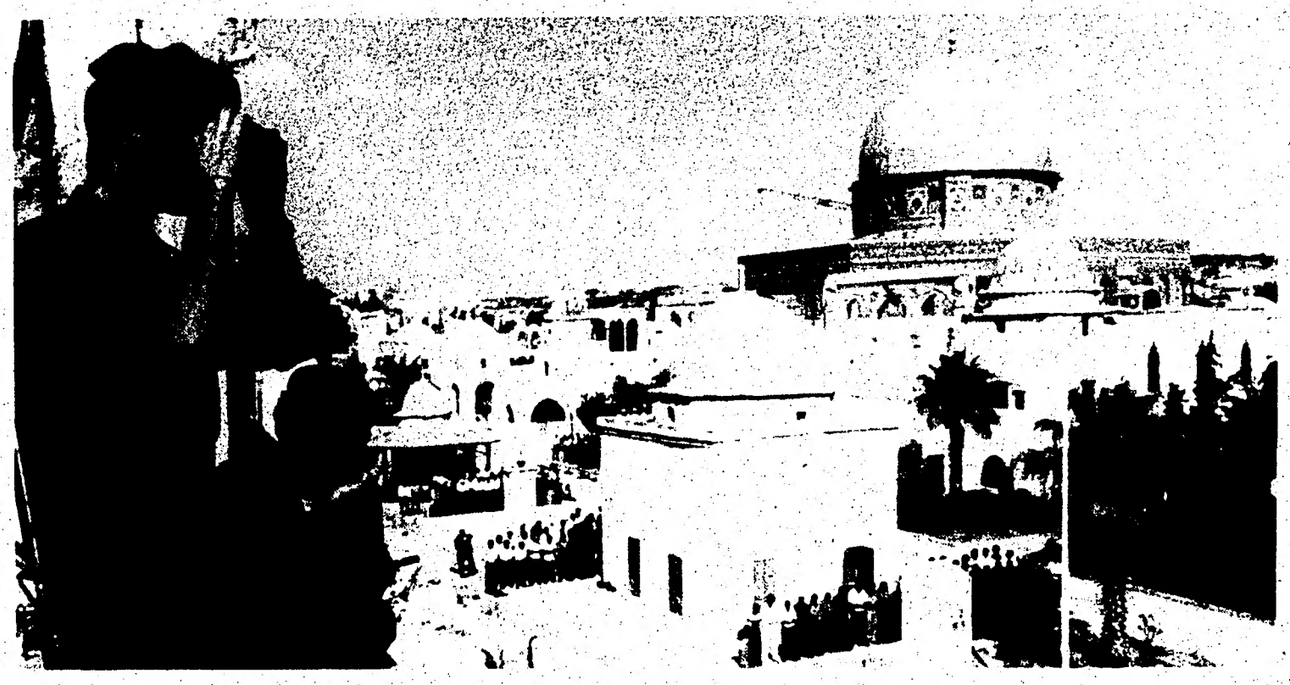
"This historic agreement . . . will make it possible for some of the most severely persecuted victims of Nazism — almost all of them elderly and needy — to live out their days in dignity and relative financial security," announced the chair of the claims conference, Rabbi Israel Miller.

According to the World Jewish Congress, claimants will receive as lump sum payment, followed by about 500 German — or nearly $400 — per month beginning in 1995. Those who qualify are victims of concentration camps and ghettos, as well as survivors who lived in hiding for at least 18 months.

In the 1950s, the West German government accepted the historic responsibility of compensating survivors for the suffering and degradation they had endured at the hands of Nazi Germany. Funds were disbursed to individuals in Israel, Western Europe, North America and elsewhere. Yet not a penny was channelled to the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, since Moscow and its East bloc allies, including East Germany, rejected the arrangement West Germany and the claims conference had worked out. As a result, survivors there were left to fend for themselves under difficult economic conditions. It was terribly unjust. But what could they do?

Under their unification treaty, West Germany and East Germany resolved to extend reparation payments to precisely those survivors who had been left out in the cold. And now, to its credit, Germany has agreed to honor that solemn commitment.

Some survivors, unfortunately, will not live long enough to reap the benefits of this agreement. But many more will be able to enjoy their final years cushioned by a degree of economic security.



LOOKING FOR TROUBLE

A border policeman looks out for troublemakers during Friday prayers on the Temple Mount. [IPPA photo]

Letters to the Editor

Letters are welcome if they are brief, in English or French, typewritten with lines double spaced, and of interest to our reading public. Readers are cautioned not to make sweeping claims against persons or institutions which they cannot verify, as libel laws are very stringent. We reserve the right to edit and condense letters, which must bear the sender's address, phone number and both handwritten and typed signatures.

* * *

TORAH AND ISRAEL

We wish to thank *The CJN* for the coverage provided our conference (Canadian Council for Conservative Judaism) in your Nov. 19 issue, as reported by Myron Love.

While he did report accurately on the positions of Rabbi Wernik and Rabbi Balser, it is unfortunate (no criticism intended) that he did not attend the Sunday morning session where Rabbi Judah Kogen presented his paper on What does the Bible say about how we should live as Jews in the Diaspora. His views were significantly different from those of the other rabbis.

It seemed Rabbi Wernik, who is an observant Conservative Jew, in his opening remarks on Sunday evening, when speaking about Torah and Israel being inseparable, did so more as a reaction to Rabbi Balser's remarks of a Torah-centred Judaism rather than as his intended subject matter. In his later remarks, he spoke of the commitment to aliyah as fundamental for Jews. In fairness to Rabbi Balser, aliyah has simply not materialized to the extent anticipated by secular Zionists; this has been primarily responsible for the position Rabbi Wernik advances.

Rabbi Kogen delivered what we believe to be a significant position on Diaspora Jews from a Conservative viewpoint, based on biblical authority. His paper may break previously unexamined ground from a Canadian and perhaps World Diaspora vantage, as opposed to a North American perspective — as if the majority of American Jews have ever considered having anything but a bi-polar relationship with Israel, if that.

One of the problems with Rabbi Wernik's remarks is that the majority of Israelis, being secular, do not embrace the inseparability of Torah and Israel and therein lies the challenge of our Masorti movement in Israel.

David Greenberg
Conference Chairman
Portage la Prairie, Man.

* * *

NO CONSENSUS IN ISRAEL

David Smith (*The CJN*, Nov. 26) suggests: 1) that if only the Palestinians would stop harping about getting back land they lost in a war of their own making, and 2) if they would only change their attitudes, then 3) real peace, similar to what Americans and Canadians enjoy, could evolve, and 4) borders could be renegotiated to accommodate Palestinian aspirations.

I have no problem with any of those positions except that they reflect more wishful thinking than hard realities. The current Israeli government today is struggling to deal with facts, as they are, rather than as they should be.

The facts are: the Israelis and Palestinians (unlike Canadians and Americans) are two peoples of different cultures, languages, traditions, with legitimate and competing claims to territory — in this case, the West Bank and Gaza; they are in hostile conflict over these territories; the whole world recognizes the rights of the Palestinians and their chosen representatives, the PLO and finally, the Palestinians, who are willing to die for their cause, threaten the security and stability of Israel's present and future.

Today, a majority of the Israel Defence Force's military, both active and in the reserves (Rafael Eitan and Ariel Sharon represent the minority), believe in territorial compromise; they believe that with appropriate security arrangements, they can compensate for the loss of strategic depth; they believe that by maintaining the IDF's critical technological edge, they can destroy any Arab enemy using Palestinian territory to attack Israel.

The fact is that there is no consensus in Israel about keeping the territories. The occupation of the West Bank and Gaza is dividing Israelis, diverting them from the real tasks of absorbing their recent Soviet and Ethiopian olim, exhausting their total economic resources, and bringing out the worst side of human nature, morally and politically.

I am sure there are many well-intentioned people like David Smith, but as been said so many times, "the path to hell is paved with good intentions."

Beverly Stern
Toronto

* * *

CONCERT IN JAPAN

I write to congratulate *The CJN* on its excellent article covering the concert of Japan's Shinonome Choir at Temple Sinai on Nov. 5. Your reviewer eloquently captured the strong emotional impact of what was, for all present, a most unusual and moving program.

One small correction: the photograph which accompanied the article indeed showed the choir and myself performing my Cantata *Prayer for Jerusalem*, but this took place in Kyoto, Japan, last March, not at Temple Sinai as captioned under the picture (that would explain the unfamiliar hall, the pipe organ and the all-Japanese audience).

Ben Steinberg
Directtor of Music
Toronto

* * *

TIME TO FREE POLLARD

This is an additional voice of Carol Pollard's plea to free Jonathan Pollard immediately.

Seven years of solitary confinement go by slowly for Pollard who was sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole.

The U.S. Supreme Court has rejected Pollard's plea for a review of this harsh and unjust sentence.

Pollard's crime: passing American defence information to Israel. No other American who spied for an allied country received more than five years. Most Americans who spied for enemies of the United States received sentences substantially less than life imprisonment.

Pollard is now buried in the K-unit, the most tightly guarded cell in the Marion, Ill. prison. *Newsweek* describes the unit as "a collection of prisoners who are there for symbolic reasons, to show what the federal government can do if it really gets angry."

Pollard put his life in danger to get information to Israel. This information did not put in danger the security and well being of America. Preliminary investigation showed that Pollard's activities on behalf of Israel did not damage the United States, its people, its property or its agents. Seven years in the Marion prison is more than any American spy has ever served. Jonathan Pollard is there for life for one reason: because he is a Jew, because he put his life on the line for the security of Israel.

What is the American administration trying to cover up? Pollard's genuine concern was for the security of Israel, one of the strongest, most valuable and closest allies of the United States. The documents transferred by Pollard contained information about the PLO, Syria and Iraqi chemical weapon production, and other matters of direct security concern to Israel.

It is difficult to grasp the American administration's lack of courage for a complete re-evaluation of this flagrant, harsh and biased sentence. In view of the U.S. Supreme Court's rejection of Pollard's plea, it is time now to call upon worldwide public opinion to urge that this ugly sentence which taints American love and respect for justice, be cancelled.

Baruch Cohen
Montreal

What really motivates German skinheads?

By RABBI W. GUNTHER PLAUT

Skinheads, violent, xenophobic and anti-Semitic, have managed to influence significant portions of the German public, some pro and most, con. What motivates these punks?

The *German Tribune*, which every week collects important articles from the German press, brings a timely piece entitled Skinhead lyrics push the racist message. These young men, with their shaven skulls and leather jackets, are a puzzling phenomenon, and not only to Germans. The substance of the following analysis is taken from the *Mannheimer Morgen* (October 24, 1992):

"The music does not sound very different from that by a left-wing punk group. But the text is something else. The skinhead group with close-shaven heads sings in a raw, compressed tone. The words "German" and "Germany" are heard again and again.

"The group allows its wishes to clearly emerge through the music: "We have to fight for our race; the German people, demonstrate your qualities," it says in a song called People Arise by the group called Werewolf.

"The group has names such as Destructive Power, Countdown, Wotan and Radikahl! (a pun on the words "radical" and "kah," meaning, in this context, close-cropped); and the songs are called *Man for Man, The Last Hero, Germany's Rescuer* and *Togetherness.*

Rabbi Plaut

Youths with close-cropped skulls and folded arms decorate the jackets in macho poses. Most of the records are available in so-called military shops and are not played on the radio. Concerts are strictly private affairs.

"The dangerous message of the skin-heads is simple: Germany is in a crisis. The foreigners and the left wing are responsible. That's why they must be fought, violently and to a hero's death if necessary. 'Inside it hurts when I see what is happening all around me. Foreigners and asylum seekers. I don't often see people I know.' Or 'I fight for my land like a wild animal'.

"The song *I'm happy that I'm not a lefty, imitates a rock singer called Marius Muller-Westernhagen. Another song, Mercenary* sung by Destructive Power, is similar to a 1968 Bob Dylan song, *Universal Soldier.* But the skinhead lyrics are rather different: 'He is a skinhead and fascist, he is bald and racist, he has neither morals nor a heart.'

"Besides the aggression and hate there is another motive; the longing for a feeling of belonging. The group Destructive Power expressed it this way: 'Among friends, yes, there is support; among friends, no, we will never grow old'."

The last quote is reminiscent of the sentiment prevalent among youth groups in Germany prior to World War I and briefly thereafter. It recalled the "good old days" — and this is to a large extent the motivation of the skinheads today. They believe that things were once better than today where times seem out of joint. In their opinion, only a radical and revolutionary and even violent restructuring will right the balance.

In their case the "good old days" represent the security of the Communist state which they still remember, and the days of Hitler about which they have read. Fortunately, Germany's leadership is finally awakening to the fact that the punks have found an all-too sympathetic response among some elements in Germany and need to be dealt with firmly and decisively.

A final note: Have a look at the Nov. 23 edition of *Maclean's*, which deals graphically with the whole issue of neo-Nazism.

Ethiopians settle on Beersheba's outskirts

By CARL SCHRAG

Moshe Desta stands out among the throngs of children and teenagers playing on the asphalt in Beersheba's Nahal Beka. Amid dozens of games and conversations carried out in Russian, Amharic and stilted Hebrew, Moshe looks for people who will understand him when he speaks English.

"I don't know Hebrew," the 14-year-old says with a mischievous grin. "But I can talk English with you. I bet you want to talk English with me."

It's a white lie, of course; after more than a year in Israel, Moshe speaks Hebrew as well as any other immigrant, but he hunts out English-speaking visitors to Nahal Beka and conducts conversations on any subject that the visitors raise. Anything to practice his English.

Despite his insistence that he's an American, Moshe is one of the 800 immigrants from Ethiopia who live in Nahal Beka. Along with some 6,000 newcomers from the former Soviet Union, the Ethiopians live at the country's largest caravan site, on the outskirts of Beersheba.

Just a few minutes' drive from the city's open-air market and main shopping district, Nahal Beka is a veritable city in its own right. Row upon row of oblong boxes dot what was an empty expanse until the Housing Ministry chose the place as the largest concentration of immigrants in the country.

Originally intended to be twice its current size, Nahal Beka is daunting as is. Signs of fast-paced "emergency" building are visible everywhere: The asphalt walkways and streets are surrounded by sand. The makeshift wooden steps that lead into each home look much older than the year they have been in service. The heavy-duty electric lines that zigzag between the homes buzz with high-voltage activity.

Each caravan is divided into two units of 22 square meters. The units are cheerful - different manufacturers use various appointments, and the decor runs the gamut from wall-to-wall carpeting and flowered wallpaper to fake support beams on sloping ceilings and built-in bedroom closets. But this does not alter the fact that the dwellings are tiny.

Each unit is divided into a living room/kitchen, a small bedroom and a bathroom. The minuscule kitchen has a small refrigerator, a sink, a bit of counterspace and a minimal number of cupboards. In nearly every case, the living room also serves as sleeping quarters for somebody.

Acting site director Dalia Sa'adon explains how the units are allocated: Families of up to four members get one unit of 22 meters; families of five or six members get two; and seven or more members get three.

Moshe Desta's family has eight members, but they have only two units. Moshe's father, Avraham, 45, expanded the family's side-by-side units by building a diamond-shaped wooden sitting room near the steps to the unit that houses the family's living quarters and the parents' tiny bedroom.

The authorities are concerned about the fire hazard posed by wooden structures like the one the Destas, who came from Addis Ababa in October 1991, have built. But Avraham Desta saw little choice.

"When the summer began, it was so hot inside the apartment," he says. "My family couldn't sit in there, so we built this extra room." Seated on a wood-framed couch in the little room, Avraham is clearly proud of the light wood structure.

"I bought the wood," he says, noting that many people used discarded wood scraps to build their additions. "I'll keep working on it, so that it will be warm enough to use in the winter, too."

Sa'adon calls the Destas "real Israelis." They quickly figured out how things work here, and she has high hopes that they will find their place in the country quickly.

They aren't typical of the Ethiopian immigrants. The family lived for many years in Addis Ababa, where Avraham was a driver for wealthy Ethiopians. Moshe learned English in school, and was exposed to many cultures and traditions which broadened his horizons.

The Destas' first station in Israel was Arad, where they lived for four months before coming to Nahal Beka. Though he is grateful for the caravan, which puts a roof over his family's head, Avraham quickly understood that Nahal Beka offered only a temporary solution.

Three months ago, he bought a four-room apartment in Arad for $65,000. The family takes possession in June, and Avraham is convinced he's closed a great deal. "Many Ethiopians buy houses for $80,000 or $90,000," he says. "They don't realize that a mortgage isn't a gift, and that they will have to repay it. Beersheba is a very nice place," he says, but considering the lower housing prices, "Arad is a better place for us, right now."

In a little more than half a year, Moshe, his five brothers and sisters and his parents will leave Nahal Beka. Nobody is holding their breath, however, that many other caravan residents will follow soon.

"Some people have moved out," says Ralph Pardo, who runs social and recreational activities in Nahal Beka. "But this temporary housing solution will not be emptied out so quickly."–JPFS

Time is just right for beefs and kudos

By ELAINE KAHN

If anybody's out there, I'd like to say something. Most of you get *The Canadian Jewish News* along with your UJA donation. Recently, for the first time, out of great necessity, you've been asked to subscribe independently.

Do it.

I'm moving to the United States this summer, so I can say this without self-interest (heck, there's a lot to say in the next few months that I might have hesitated on before). And I'll let you in on a secret: you're not the only one who sometimes just scans the ads, reads "What's On" and then recycles this paper under "G."

But I've no patience with people who don't get *The CJN*, yet still hallucinate that they have a grasp of Canadian Jewish concerns or (unless they get other Jewish papers) world Jewish news. I see enough Jewish publications to know *The CJN* is among the best of its kind — and, if it isn't what you want it to be, now you finally have the chance, through your chequebook, to change it. No publication stays alive long by alienating the piper (nor do we value what we get for free).

And I want to say something I'd originally planned for when I leave. I want to thank former *CJN* editor Maurice Lucow, for taking the gamble and allowing me, a relatively young person and a feminist, to be a columnist, and the current editor, Patricia Rucker, for allowing me to stay.

I've never been slotted into a particular subject area and my doctrinal unpredictability (also known as my "loose canon" factor) has almost always been respected — few columnists have that freedom.

I'm saying all this now because, as one feminist line goes, the power of naming is important, so you should know those names. And I'm saying it because of a really bad week I had last month, in which I let myself fully realize our community's scandalous scorn for *The CJN.*

Elaine Kahn

It goes something like this:

One weekend, I read newspaper reports about an extremely successful "women in the media" conference in Ottawa. It drew 450 women, largely feminists, from across Canada — the excitement it generated was palpable on the page. And I got into a major snit.

Why had nobody told me about this conference? Just because I mainly write for "only" *The CJN*? Eight years of writing this column, which I assume is read by at least some Jewish Canadian women working in the general media, and no one thinks to let me know?

Well, it turns out the conference organizers were mainly volunteers, the budget was low, much of the publicity was word-of-mouth, "multicultural" women hadn't been specifically targeted (although francophone women were).

I tried to live with that, despite reading tht a main organizer was a longtime female journalist who's Jewish and that two of the keynote speakers were Jewish women held in very high regard by the different segments of our community.

But, y'know, you brood, you kvetch, and all of a sudden you ask yourself "but surely they invited the editor of *The Canadian Jewish News*, who's a woman and a feminist?"

Right. And now about that bridge for sale in Brooklyn . . .

Did it even cross the minds of those two Jewish keynotes, once they got to Ottawa, to ask whether Ms. Rucker had been invited to the conference or even been made aware of it? Of course not — in fact, when I spoke to each of them, they seemed to think I was asking a very peculiar question.

But it's not, at least if you believe prevailing wisdom about feminists and, more so, about Jews. Aren't they both into networking, sharing, looking out for each other?

So about that bridge . . .

Anyhow, two days later I heard about a very important event taking place in Toronto Feb. 19 to 21: the city's first Jewish feminist conference, with both Canadian and American participation.

I'm delighted — it's long overdue. And I know at least some of the difficulties involved — several friends and I tried, and failed, to do a Jewish feminist conference in the mid-'80s.

I'm not comfortable that a Jewish conference is being held over Shabbat or that the meals are vegetarian, with a kosher option, instead of vice versa. I'm ticked off that the reason, according to a conference organizer, is, essentially, that this is not an Orthodox conference (although Orthodox feminists are welcome — assuming, I guess, they have a thicker skin than decidedly non-Orthodox me).

But I hope it's a big success.

My beef is that the organizers never thought to tell me about it, either in its planning stages or once its publicity materials were ready. I heard secondhand (as did Ms. Rucker), weeks after it was first advertised near the New Israel Fund's Sukkot event for women (a huge success I missed because I was speaking to a group of women that night about Jewish feminism).

Turns out the conference organizers never thought to contact me because I'm not a personal friend, and turns out I have friends who did know about it who never thought to tell me. Yet, when I look in the mirror, there does seem to be someone there . . .

From a purely practical point of view, it doesn't make sense, when organizing a "radical" conference like this, to risk antagonizing the only columnist writing regularly from a feminist perspective in Canada's main Jewish paper.

Unless, of course, they don't know.

That's always been a problem — I write fairly liberal iconoclastic stuff, which hasn't made me too popular with The Establishment, but appear in the establishment paper, which probably lowers my ratings with everyone else (assuming they read *The CJN*).

The saddest explanation I'm given is also the one I heard when my husband's shul wasn't somehow saved by the community: "What do you expect? It's Toronto." I'm told this means "cold, cliquish and, for heaven's sake, Elaine, you've lived here long enough to know that!"

Perhaps the operative phrase is "you've lived here long enough." I hate being ignored. I'm going to the Toronto conference to meet the Americans.

Features

Jewish-Ukrainian relations shaky

[In this report from Kiev, Sheldon Kirshner surveys Jewish-Ukrainian relations, past and present]

BY SHELDON KIRSHNER

In James Joyce's great novel, *Ulysses*, Stephen Daedalus remarks, "History is a nightmare from which I am trying to awake."

The same could be said of Jewish-Ukrainian relations, which, since the mid-17th century, have been marred by mutual suspicion and hostility and marked by periodic explosions of bloody pogroms.

Now that Ukraine has achieved independence, after centuries of nationalist yearning, this troublesome relationship may finally have reached a crossroads.

"Jews and Ukrainians are on the threshold of a new, positive relationship," said David Ariel, president of the Cleveland College of Jewish Studies, who visits Ukraine regularly. "There's preliminary evidence of this."

The Ukrainian government has unequivocably thrown its support behind an ambitious program of Jewish cultural and religious renewal in Ukraine. And Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk has said that he seeks Israel's friendship.

"We've entered a new phase," said Alexander Burakovsky, chairman of the national minorities committee of Rukh, a moderate nationalist organization that fought for Ukrainian independence. "Ukrainians realize that anti-Semitism will do irreparable harm to to their cause."

Yet in spite of the Ukrainian government's stance toward the Jewish community, Jewish-Ukrainian relations remain shaky, shot through with lingering problems.

Sergei Kravtsov, a 37-year-old Jewish architect from Lviv (Lvov), put it best: "To me, it's disturbing that some of Ukraine's major nationalist heroes were pogromists."

Iosef Zissels, chairman of the Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities of Ukraine, was no less blunt: "These heroes are connected with the suffering of Jews."

Kravtsov and Zissels were referring to three seminal figures in the pantheon of Ukrainian nationalism — Bogdan Khmelnitsky (1595-1657), the Cossack hetman (ruler) whose uprising against Polish rule in Ukraine resulted in the deaths of at least 100,000 Jews; Symon Petulra (1879-1926), a dominant figure of the short-lived Ukrainian National Republic who, it is alleged, was largely oblivious to widespread pogroms in 1919 and 1920 which, conservatively, claimed the lives of 30,000 Jews; and Stepan Bandera (1909-1959), a Ukrainian nationalist who had ties with Nazi Germany before and during the Holocaust.

The case against Khmelnitsky, for whom cities, town squares and streets are named, is clear.

From the end of the 14th century, Jews began to arrive in Ukraine from Germany via Poland, according to Canadian scholars Howard Aster and Peter Potichnyj. Enormous estates in Ukraine lay in the hands of feudal Polish landlords but were managed by arendars, or rent collectors. Among these arendars were Jews.

When Khmelnitsky rebelled against Polish domination in 1648, in an attempt to establish an autonomous Ukraine, his cossacks turned their fury on Jews, among others. Caught between the hammer and the anvil, the Jews were widely perceived as agents of the despised Polish nobility.

Throughout Ukraine, Jewish communities were laid waste. In Jewish annals, Khmelnitsky was demonized. But in the eyes of Ukrainians, he was regarded as a symbol of the Ukrainian people's awakening.

Petlura is also surrounded by controversy. Henry Abramson, a University of Toronto scholar, suggests that he was not sufficiently alert to, or concerned by, the outbreaks of pogroms, although he finally issued two strong proclamations condemning them. Viktoria Khiterer, a Ukrainian Jewish specialist in pogroms, argues that Petulra was a weak leader who wielded little control over his forces and was basically indifferent to anti-Semitism.

In the popular Jewish imagination, Petlura would be identified with "a line of Ukrainian nationalist leaders and rabid anti-Semites stretching back to Khmelnitsky," according to Abramson. (Indeed, Petlura was assassinated by a Ukrainian Jew, Sholem Schwarzbart.)

The Ukrainian National Republic, with which Petlura was closely linked, extended civil rights to Jews and granted the Jewish population personal-cultural autonomy. The civil service was opened to Jews. Yiddish was declared an official language. Currency was printed in Ukrainian and Yiddish. But all the while, Abramson writes, "pogromists operating in the name of that very same movement" terrorized and killed Jews.

This chaotic period, he muses, was filled with both "great promise and terrible tragedy, and remains one of the most paradoxical eras in modern Jewish history."

After the Polish and the Red armies snuffed out Ukraine's independence, Ukrainian radical nationalist circles increasingly pinned their hopes on Germany, writes American scholar Philip Friedman.

In 1929, they founded the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN). The leader of its branch in Polish Galicia was Bandera, the son of a Ukrainian priest. With Nazi Germany's encouragement, Bandera's followers created two military formations — Roland and Nachtigall — which participated in the June 1941 invasion of the Soviet Union.

In April 1941, the Bandera faction adopted a resolution which, in part, read: "The OUN combats the Jews as the prop of the Moscovite-Bolshevik regime and simultaneously it renders the masses conscious of the fact that the principal foe is Moscow."

On June 30, 1941, under Bandera's leadership, the OUN established a Western Ukrainian state with headquarters in Lviv.

Nationalists turned to Nazi Germany for support

Germany, which had cynically stoked the fires of Ukrainian nationalism, opposed such overt manifestations of Ukrainian nationalism, and arrested Bandera. He was packed off to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp, but later released.

During World War II, Bandera's partisans fought the Soviets and then the Germans. According to Friedman, the OUN made no effort "to stop the persecution of the Jews" by pro-Nazi Ukrainian partisan groups in the first two years of the German occupation.

In the second half of 1943, when the rift between Germany and Ukrainian nationalists flared into full-fledged warfare, the third general congress of the OUN no longer included anti-Jewish rhetoric in its resolutions.

And, it is pointed out by Ukrainian writers, Bandera loyalists recruited Jews, mainly physicians, dentists and artisans, into their partisan bands.

But, on balance, Bandera's record vis-a-vis Jews remains clouded and beset by bitter controversy.

In an interview, Alexander Shlaen, president of the Babi Yar Public Historical Centre in Kiev, charged that Bandera, as well as his OUN rival Andrew Melnyk, were anti-Semites.

"Maybe they didn't kill Jews with their own hands, but their soldiers did."

Jacub Chonigsman, a Jewish historian in Lviv, charges that the OUN disseminated the falsehood that Jews and communists were simply different sides of the same coin.

Ilja Levitas, president of the Jewish Cultural Society in Kiev and a founder of the Ukrainian Jewish Congress, is definitely perturbed by this linkage.

As he put it: "Some Ukrainians claim that Jews collaborated with the Red Army in eastern Poland (from 1939 to 1941.) They don't realize that, for Jews, communists were preferable to Nazis."

Another problem bedeviling Jewish-Ukrainian relations today, Levitas said, revolves around the person of John Demjanjuk. An ethnic Ukrainian who settled in the United States after the war, Demjanjuk was convicted of war crimes by an Israeli court. He has appealed the conviction.

"Some Ukrainians mistakenly concluded that the Demjanjuk affair was an indictment of the Ukrainian nation rather than the trial of an alleged war criminal," noted Levitas.

Ivan Drach, co-chairman of Rukh, is troubled that Jews and Ukrainians have totally conflicting views of such figures as Khmelnitsky and Bandera, and that Ukrainians generally hold Khmelnitsky and Bandera in such high regard. (During our conversation, I mentioned that Jewish visitors are appalled by a huge, glorifying statue of Khmelnitsky in the centre of Kiev.)

Asked how Jews and Ukrainians can improve their relationship, Drach offered this advice: "Ukrainians should build Holocaust memorials. If we don't respect the dead, we will will not be able to build democracy in Ukraine."

He reminded a visitor that President Kravchuk attended a 1991 ceremony at the Babi Yar memorial and personally apologized for Ukrainian complicity in the Holocaust.

And what can Jews do to improve relations with Ukrainians? "They can help rebuild Ukraine's banking system."

Larysa Skoryk, a member of Ukraine's parliament, believes the atmosphere between Jews and Ukrainians is bound to improve because the new Ukrainian state "stands for the equality of all minorities," and is interested in forging close ties with Israel.

"There's a tendency to portray Ukraine as an anti-Semitic state. But Jewish schools, synagogues and newspapers are flourishing in Ukraine."

Skoryk believes that Russia has deliberately set out to tarnish Ukraine's image with the brush of anti-Semitism. Russia, she said, wants to isolate Ukraine so as to exert influence over its political direction.

In her view, Khmelnitsky is a "tragedy" for Ukraine. But, she hastened to add, his pogroms took place amidst chaos and war.

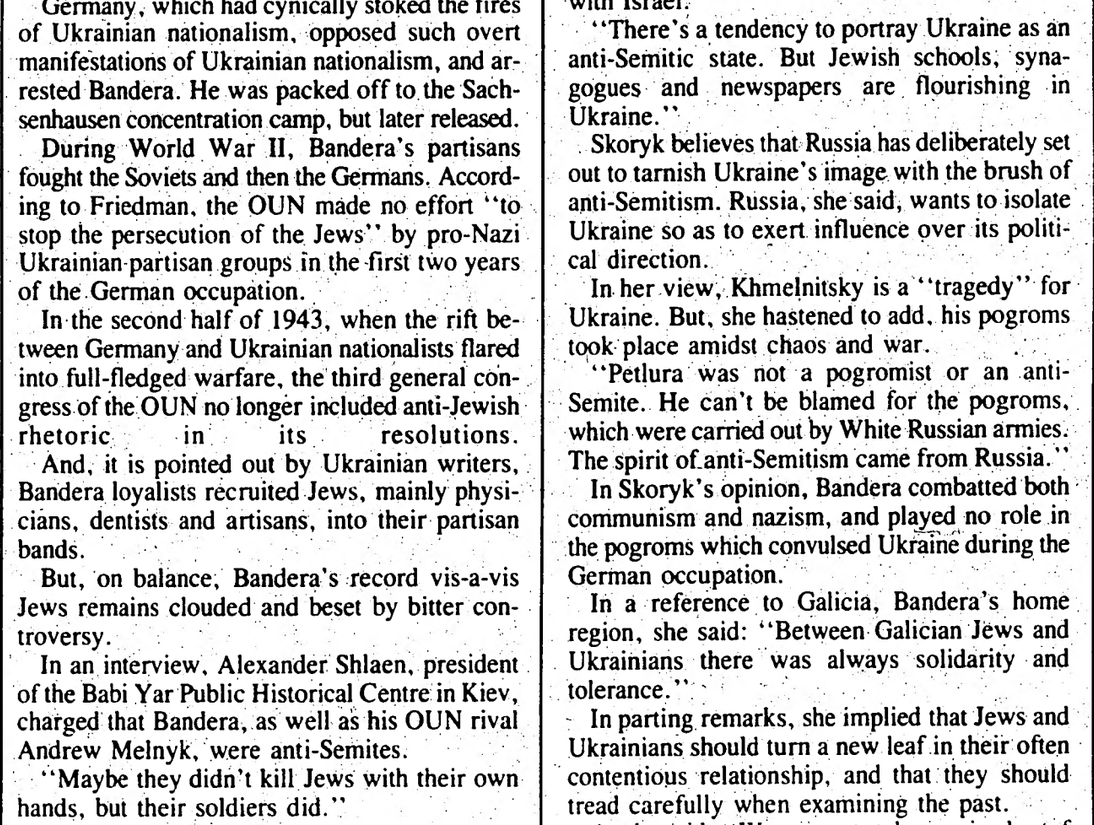
"Petlura was not a pogromist or an anti-Semite. He can't be blamed for the pogroms, which were carried out by White Russian armies. The spirit of anti-Semitism came from Russia."

In Skoryk's opinion, Bandera combatted both communism and nazism, and played no role in the pogroms which convulsed Ukraine during the German occupation.

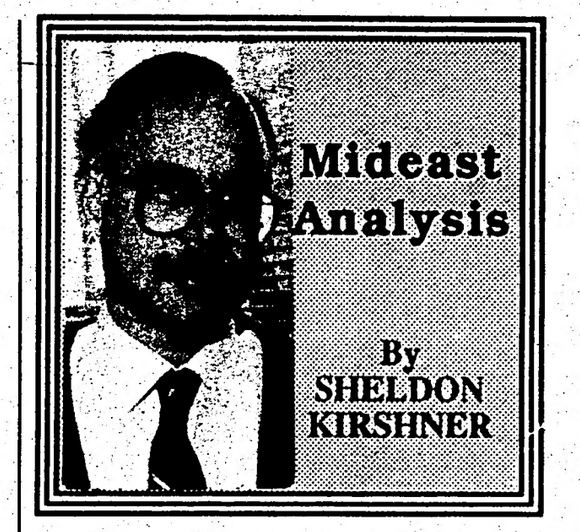
In a reference to Galicia, Bandera's home region, she said: "Between Galician Jews and Ukrainians there was always solidarity and tolerance."

In parting remarks, she implied that Jews and Ukrainians should turn a new leaf in their often contentious relationship, and that they should tread carefully when examining the past.

As she said, "We must treat these episodes (of mutual antagonism) philosophically and objectively."



The statue of Bogdan Khmelnitsky in Kiev. [Sheldon Kirshner photo]



George Bush will leave the White House in a little more than one month, having been denied a second presidential term by Democratic challenger Bill Clinton.

Like his predecessors, Bush allocated much of his time to the Middle East, which sits on the world's largest known oil reserves. In addition, the United States has vital interests in Israel and in conservative Arab states like Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Kuwait and Jordan.

Bush faced his greatest challenge in the Persian Gulf, following Iraq's invasion and annexation of Kuwait in August 1990. Bush and his secretary of state, James Baker, confronted Iraq by assembling a coalition of diverse nations. In the Arab world, Egypt took the lead in isolating Iraq. Syria, Iraq's traditional rival, Israel's foe and the Soviet Union's chief client state in the Middle East, was co-opted into the anti-Iraqi alliance. But Jordan, long an American ally, remained neutral.

It was noted that Western nations, particularly the United States and France, had helped Iraq politically and militarily in the 1980s. But this inconvenient and embarrassing information was downplayed as the crisis unfolded.

Having failed to push Iraq out of Kuwait through diplomatic means, the United States and its allies deployed brute force to achieve this objective. It took a month-long air war and a brief land campaign to eject Iraq from Kuwait.

Iraq was defanged, though not cowed. Saddam Hussein, the Iraqi strongman, survived the onslaught. He crushed a Kurdish revolt in the north and squelched a Shi'ite rebellion in the south, turning hundreds of thousand of Iraqi Kurds and Shi'ites into hapless refugees. The United States protested but remained on the sidelines, its moral authority in tatters.

George Bush's record

Saddam, in an attempt to break up the coalition, tried to goad Israel into the war by firing Scud missiles at Israeli cities. The Scuds caused property damage, inflicted several deaths and prompted nation-wide anguish. But Israel, restrained by U.S. pressure, the loan of Patriot missile batteries and the promise of generous economic aid, held back.

After the fighting, Bush launched a serious effort to defuse the Arab-Israeli conflict. Over a period of eight months, Baker repeatedly visited Israel and its Arab neighbors. Baker's shuttle diplomacy finally paid off when the Madrid conference, co-sponsored by the United States and the Soviet Union, got under way in October 1991.

Madrid enabled Israel to open a direct dialogue with Syria, Jordan, Lebanon and the Palestinians. The United States, which broke off talks with the PLO in 1990, supported Israel's position of refusing to deal with that Palestinian umbrella group.

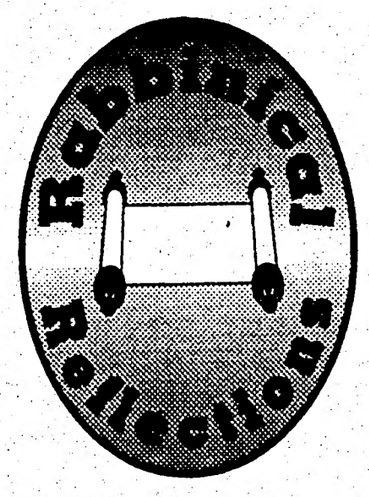
The bilateral negotiations, which have since taken place in Washington, have not produced peace. Indeed, they have been as tough as expected. However, they are the region's best chance for some kind of political accommodation.

Under Bush, the United States' relationship with Israel dipped to a new low. Israel asked the United States for $10 billion worth of loan guarantees for immigrant absorption. Washington demanded a quid pro quo — a freeze in Israeli settlement activity. Israel rejected the linkage. A battle royal ensued, with Bush disengenuously portraying himself as "one lonely little guy" battling the all-powerful Jewish lobby in Washington.

Nevertheless, the United States maintained the flow of economic and military aid to Israel. Its strategic co-operation with Israel remained unimpaired, and furthermore, Bush worked to repeal a 1975 United Nations resolution equating Zionism with racism.

Israel finally got the $10 billion, but only after Yitzhak Rabin, who succeeded Yitzhak Shamir as prime minister, pledged drastic reductions in the building of settlements and agreed to accept a pending sale of American fighter jets to Saudi Arabia and tanks to Kuwait.

Bowing to the dictates of Realpolitik and partisan politics, Bush performed a startling volteface and dropped his policy of arms control in the Middle East. By 1992, the United States had become the leading supplier of weaponry to that volatile region. So much for rhetoric.



By RABBI KENNETH KATZ

"*Mai Chanukah*," asks the Talmud — "What is Chanukah?" The Talmud answers, "For when the Greeks entered the Temple, they defiled all the oils therein, and when the Hasmonean dynasty prevailed against and defeated them, they made search and found only one cruse of oil which lay with the seal of the High Priest, but which contained sufficient for one day's lighting only; yet a miracle was wrought therein and they lit the lamp therewith for eight days. The following year these days were appointed a festival with the recital of Hallel and thanksgiving."

And so it was during all the terrible centuries of our exile that Chanukah was a festival of hope. We celebrated the miraculous victory of a tiny Jewish army over a cruel foreign power. We remembered how God had helped us once, and took hope and courage that He would remember us in our struggles for freedom and dignity.

And what do you know? God *has* remembered us. We are a free people living in our land. Though there is always a danger for Jews, whether in Israel or abroad, even in the Diaspora most Jews are relatively safe and secure. On Chanukah we recite Hallel to thank God for this. We live in a marvellous time. God is great.

But having said all of this, I think the time has come to ask the Talmud's question again — What is Chanukah? If we are safe, secure and free, what else do we learn from the story of the Maccabees?

The answer to this question rests in the story of what happened the day after the rededication of the Temple and the miracle of the oil. In the years after the miracle of the oil, Judah Maccabee's army broke into factions. Judah was defeated and killed. The Maccabees returned to the countryside.

Then, only thirteen years later Judah's brother Jonathan was courted as an ally by two rivals for the Greek throne. He took the side of one and, in exchange, was appointed High Priest by a Greek king. He made an alliance with Rome. He was murdered in an intrigue. His brother Simon became dictator and High Priest. He also made a treaty with Rome. He, too, was assassinated. Simon's son, John Hyrcanus, a Jew with a Persian name, ruled as dictator for thirty years, years full of war and intrigue for and against the Greeks. His son Aristobolus crowned himself king. After murdering his mother and brother in the palace, he died and was succeeded by another brother, Alexander Janneus. Alexander was famous for his cruelty. On one occasion he crucified hundreds of his enemies and feasted while they died. Another time, he massacred Jewish demonstrators at the Temple.

Jews joined forces with a Greek king in an attempt to overthrow him. A brief interval of peace followed his death during the nine-year rule of the only Jewish queen, Salome Alexandra. On her death, civil war returned, until the Jews themselves opened the gates of Jerusalem to the Roman general Pompey in 63 BCE. The Maccabees took only a few years to betray their own revolution and to become what they had first fought against — petty, oppressive Greek princes.

What is the lesson? Oppression is harsh. For centuries we prayed for freedom. But freedom also is full of peril. It is easy to lose your way. It is easy to become what you hate. It is easy to lose your principles, to become what you are surrounded by.

"*Mai Chanukah?*" "What is Chanukah?" First, it is a blessing. We prayed for freedom. God answered us. But now that we are free, it is also a caution, to remember that we are capable of political and cultural failure, as individuals and as a nation. Let us be inspired by the Maccabees' first brave success, and warned by their later collapse.

(Rabbi Kenneth Katz is the rabbi of Congregation Beth-El, Town of Mount Royal, Quebec.)

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Orthodox rabbis slam mortuary

LOS ANGELES (JTA) —

An association of Orthodox rabbis has strongly condemned a mortuary that refused to assist a Muslim family on the grounds that it only served Jewish clients.

The case involves Fuad and Fatme Albahri, whose first son was stillborn at a Los Angeles hospital in September 1991.

According to the couple, Albahri, a Jordanian national, and his wife, a Palestinian, were too distraught to handle the mortuary arrangements themselves and asked relatives in San Diego to arrange for the transportation and storage of the baby's body.

The San Diego relatives were advised to contact the Malinow & Silverman mortuary in Los Angeles. On their fifth call, a mortuary employee allegedly told them that "We don't pick up Muslim children. We only pick up Jews."

Malinow & Silverman, which was founded as a family enterprise in 1927, was sold eight years ago to Texas-based Service Corporation, Inc., the largest American funeral corporation, with mortuaries, funeral parlors and cemeteries across the country.

A Service Corporation spokesman acknowledged that Malinow & Silverman only performed services for Jews, and that such a restriction was legal as long as other mortuaries were available.

But the Albahris claim that they made it clear they were asking only for the pick-up, storage and refrigeration of the dead baby, and would later arrange for a Muslim religious service on their own.

On learning of the situation, the Rabbinical Council of California, an association of Orthodox rabbis in Southern California, sharply condemned the action and attitude of the mortuary.

In a unanimous resolution by its members, the Rabbinical Council stated that it wished to clarify "the erroneous impression that Jewish tradition prohibits a Jewish mortuary from assisting in the burial of a non-Jew.

"In fact, the Talmud and subsequent law codes explicitly require that Jews assist in the burial of non-Jews," the statement continued, an act which "promotes a more peaceful world."

The Albahri family has now filed a $4 million lawsuit against Malinow & Silverman as compensation for their pain, suffering and humiliation.

Their lawyer, Michael Linfield, said that the mortuary's action violated California's anti-discrimination laws and professional codes and that he was seeking a court injunction to prevent such alleged discrimination against non-Jews in the future.

Linfield added that attempts to settle the case out of court over the past year had failed.

Joel Citron, the attorney for Service Corporation, said the Rabbinical Council's resolution concerned him deeply and that he was investigating the "difficult" situation.

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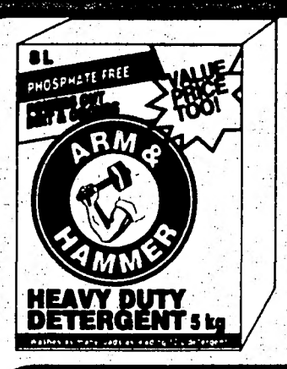

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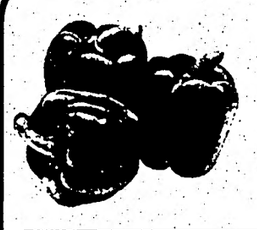

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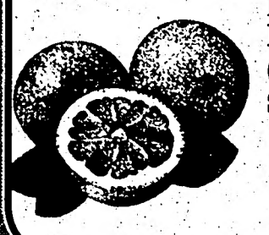

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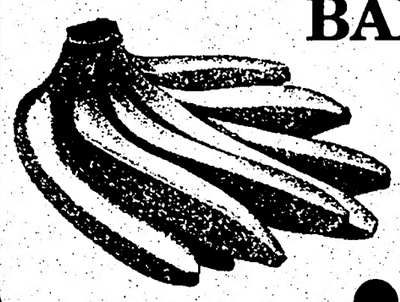

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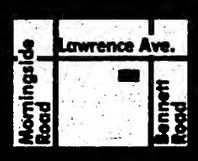

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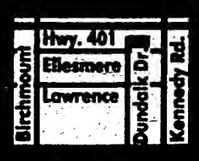

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In keeping with their tradition of service and generosity to the community, Steeles (College) Memorial Chapel has donated a classroom in Na'amat Toronto's Vocational High School in Hadera, Israel. Accepting a cheque for the construction is Louise Cornblum, project chair. With her are Henry Lederman, treasurer (left), Gordon Donsky, president, and Mike Rogow, vice-president.

'Neo-Nazi thugs' blamed for vandalism

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

In a weekend vandalism spree, a Jewish cemetery, a Native Canadian centre and a bookstore were recently daubed with swastikas and Stars of David in what Canadian Jewish Congress suggests are related incidents perpetrated by neo-Nazi thugs.

Congress has offered a $5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator(s) of the incidents. So far, "we've had some calls," said David Satok, chair of Congress' community relations committee. He declined to give any details.

The Jones Avenue Cemetery, which has been in constant use since 1883, was the first to be defaced, daubed with swastikas and Stars of David surrounded by epithets such as Die Jews.

Cemetery officials quickly painted over the graffiti, though the outlines of the swastikas were still visible afterwards.

"This cemetery — one of the oldest in Toronto — was attacked by a group of neo-Nazi thugs leaving the unmistaken imprint of anti-Semitic hooliganism on the walls," Satok said.

One night after the cemetery was struck, the sidewalk in front of the Native Canadian Centre on Spadina Road was daubed with a swastika and the window of the Pathfinder Bookstore on Bloor Street West was spray-painted with a large Star of David. The window was displaying posters of black nationalist Malcolm X and Leon Trotksy's book, *Fascism — What It Is and How To Fight It.*

More anti-Semitism see page 42

Bookstore manager Robert Simms said it was the second time in three months the store had been vandalized, *The Toronto Star* reported. Rocks were thrown through the window on Sept. 20, knocking down displays on Malcolm X and Nelson Mandela.

Rodney Bobiwash, anti-racism coordinator of the NCC, and Simms criticized police for not showing up at either crime scene. The attacks came on the same weekend that the Metro Police Services Board announced its intention of setting up an anti-hate unit.

"The inadequate reaction by police to [the recent] vandalism coupled with warnings from neo-Nazi extremists of the potential for their turning violent, clearly shows the need for better policing in this area," Satok said.

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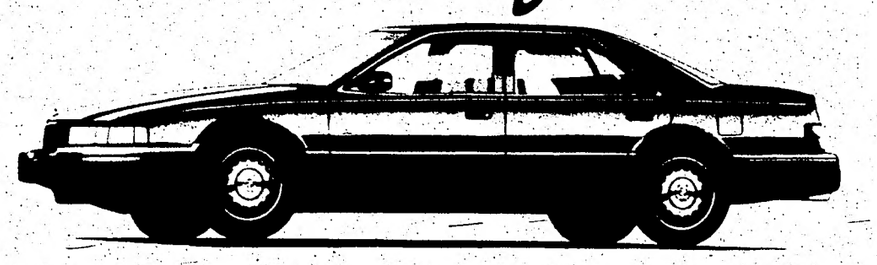

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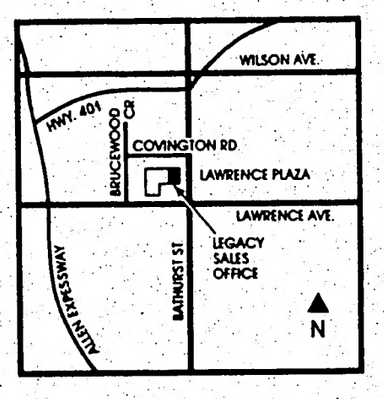

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Organizations and People

What's New

DEADLINE REMINDER

A reminder that the deadline for What's New and About People is Thursday, two weeks prior to publication date (i.e. Thursday, Dec. 10 is deadline for Dec. 24). But please note that since there will be no issue on Dec. 31, all copy for that date must also be in Dec. 10. Also, remember that I am at my desk on Thursdays only to receive your calls and sort my mail.

Thursday, Dec. 10

HABIMA PLAYERS AT LIBRARY

Forest Hill Library, 700 Eglinton Ave. W., offers a special program of skits and plays by *The Habima Players*, 1:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10.

Friday, Dec. 11

KESHET SHALOM ONEG SHABBAT

Congregation Keshet Shalom, which meets the needs of Toronto's lesbian and gay Jewish community, holds an Oneg Shabbat 8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11 at the Bloor JCC, 2nd floor, 750 Spadina Ave. Doors open at 7:30.

Saturday, Dec. 12

NISHMAT FOUNDER TO SPEAK

Entering the Real World: Adam and Eve After Eden, will be examined by **Rabbanit Chana Henkin,** founder and director of Nishmat (an institute in Jerusalem for women who study Judaism from original sources), following services Saturday, Dec. 12 at Shaarei Shomayim Congregation.

BETH AM CONCERT

Cantor Yehuda Rottner of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Congregation, presents a *Spirit of Chanukah* concert, 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12 at the synagogue, 55 Yeomans Rd. Proceeds are to support newly arrived children from Russia and Ethiopa, studying at Ulpana Amana in Kfar Saba, Israel. Tickets, $10, are available at the synagogue office.

Sunday, Dec.13

CHANUKAH VARIETY SHOW

Adath Israel Brotherhood welcomes the congregation and community to a Chanukah Variety Show with **The Rebounders,** trampoline artistry and **Johnny Toronto,** king of the unicycle, 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. Refreshments (latkes). Children wear slacks (floor seating). Tickets, $3, available main office and school office.

THE SPY WHO CAME IN FOR BRUNCH

New Leadership of Beit Halochem - Aid to Disabled War Veterans of Israel - hosts a Chanukah brunch with **Steve Hartov,** author of *The Heat of Ramadan*, a new spy thriller set in the Middle East. Hartov, who served in Israeli military intelligence, will focus on Espionage, Terrorism and Betrayal in the Middle East, 11 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 at 10 Tichester (Party Room). For tickets, $15, call 488-7649.

BOUTIQUE & CRAFT SALE

Beth Tikvah Sisterhood is sponsoring A Holiday Happening, A Shop Til You Drop boutique and craft sale 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 at the synagogue. Free babysitting for children over. USY provides a gift wrap service.

RICHMOND HILL CHANUKAH PARTY

The Richmond Hill Jewish Community holds its Chanukah party with entertainment and lunch, at the synagogue building, 9711 Bayview Ave., 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. Members, $5/ family, non-members $3/ person, $15/family. RSVP to **Karen,** 886-9461. (Please bring one package of crayons and coloring book/word puzzle book, as a donation to Jewish Family Services).

HOLY BLOSSOM BREAKFAST CLUB

Jill Solnicki leads a discussion of Problems in our Public School System, at a meeting of Holy Blossom Brotherhood Breakfast Club, Sunday, Dec. 13. Service, 9 a.m., breakfast, 9:30.

SPECIAL NEEDS CHANUKAH PARTY

Parents of Jewish children with Special Needs invite family and friends to a Chanukah Party featuring a magician, clowns, games, prizes and refreshments, at National Council of Jewish Women, 4700 Bathurst St., 1-3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13. Volunteers will be on hand to help with the children. Come join in the fun! To inquire further, call **Cindy,** 782-4301, **Suzanne,** 782-2773, **Fay,** 883-4701.

MASHIACH IS WAITING

On Sunday, Dec. 13 at 11 a.m., Chabad Lubavitch Women's Organization, Thornhill, welcomes women to a program, What Can We Do to Hasten the Entry of Mashiach? with clinical psychologist **Dr. Leo Stainer,** followed by lunch, and 12:30 p.m. At What Stage Are We Now? What is to Follow?, with **Rabbi Moshe New.** At 8:15 p.m. Rabbi New will explain Demystifying Mashiach (men and women invited).

ANIMAL RIGHTS

All Things Great and Small, Jewish Views on Animal Rights, will be considered by **Rabbi Mordechai Becher,** 9 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 in the main hall, Ohr Somayach, 613 Clark Ave. W., Thornhill. No charge.

MARKHAM/UNIONVILLE CHANUKAH

B'nai Brith Women, Markham/Unionville Chapter, hosts a Chanukah party 2-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 in Crosby Arena, Main St., Unionville. Music/magic show, face painting, refreshments. Admission, $3 per person, $1, grandparents. For information, contact **Louise,** 470-7313.

SHAAREI SHOMAYIM BROTHERHOOD

Zundel, Keegstra, Ross - The New Anti-Semitism, will be the topic when **David Satok,** Canadian Jewish Congress, addresses Shaarei Shomayim Brotherhood Sunday, Dec. 13. Service 9 a.m., breakfast 9:30. Public invited. Admission free.

Monday, Dec. 14

SURVIVORS OF MEDICAL ABUSE

Survivors of Medical Abuse, a support group for anyone who has experienced emotional, physical or sexual abuse by a medical practitioner, holds its next meeting 6:30 p.m., Monday, Dec. 14, Room 224 A, Northern District Library, 40 Orchard View Blvd. A survivor advocacy group with whom you can share concerns in a positive, confidential manner. Call **Josie,** 836-4900, **Sharon,** 594-1235.

ISRAEL PHILATELY

The next meeting of CAFIP, The Canadian Association for Israel Philately, features a slide presentation depicting local stamp issues of transition from Palestine to Israel, at Shaarei Shomayim Synagogue, 8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14. Admission free. Public welcome. To inquire further, call **Alvin Dickstein,** 594-7887 or **Hartley Garshowitz,** 665-3555.

CHABAD LUBAVITCH COURSES

Chabad Lubavitch course, Unearthing the World of the Bible, with **Rabbi Yosef Gansburg,** When the Righteous Suffer-The Difficult Life and Hardships of our Father Jacob, 7:45-8:35 p.m. **Rabbi Mendel Bernstein's** course, Soul Trek, will deal with The Names of G-d, 8:50-9:40 p.m. Both Dec. 14. Classes are held at Chabad Lubavitch, 770 Chabad Gate, Thornhill. For information, call 731-7000.

ADULT EDUCATION SERIES

The Beth Tikvah Adult Education fall series, Pressures on Conservative Jews in Contemporary Society, Part 2, continues with **Rabbi William Lebeau,** of the Jewish Theological Seminary, who will discuss The Conservative Jew and Personal Piety, 8 p.m. Dec. 14 at the synagogue. No charge for members. $5 non-members.

Tuesday, Dec. 15

BETH DAVID SISTERHOOD

Family Practitioner **Dr. Steven Holzapfel,** of Women's College Hospital, will speak on Human Sexuality at a meeting of Beth David B'nai Israel Beth Am Sisterhood, 55 Yeomans Rd., 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15. Everyone welcome.

CHANUKAH-THE REAL STORY

Why could Judaism and Hellenism not tolerate one another? Does Chanukah teach us to totally reject Hellenism? How does the miracle of the oil add to the understanding of this civil war? **Rabbi Benjamin Hecht** will consider these questions at a lecture and discussion, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 15 in Markham St. Shul, 307 Markham at Ulster. Latkes will be served. Free admission. For information, call 533-0007.

Wednesday, Dec. 16

LOWER EAST SIDE STORIES

A Journey Up the Stairs, stories from the Lower East Side, featuring mime/storyteller **Jay Miller,** is part of a Continuing Education series, 8 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16 at Beth Emeth Bais Yehuda Synagogue. For information, call 633-3838.

MEDINA THEATRE ENSEMBLE

Medina Theatre Ensemble presents a concert reading of **Leo Orenstein's** comedy, *Salesmen Don't Ride Bicycles*, 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 16 at Holy Blossom Temple. Admission, members $2, non-members, $4. Further information, **Roselle Stone,** 633-2057.

AND WHAT ELSE IS NEW...

KOSHER CANDY TREES FOR CHANUKAH

Jordana/Yamit chapter of Hadassah-WIZO, is selling kosher candy trees for Chanukah. Free delivery. Only $12 each. Call **Janet,** 631-0724 or **Margi,** 731-4227.

SPEAK, READ, WRITE HEBREW

Keren Hatarbut Institute of Hebrew Studies, 788 Marlee Ave. is accepting registration for beginner, intermediate and advanced adult and teenager winter courses in conversational Hebrew. Morning courses are 9:40-11:05 Mondays, Jan. 18-May 3, 1993. Evening courses are 7:30-9, Tuesdays, Jan. 19-May 4.

Instructor for the beginners' course is **Joseph Klinger,** founder of the Israeli ulpan method for teaching Hebrew in Toronto. For consultation and registration, call him at 787-0197.

CHANUKAH AT CUMMER

A Chanukah party for residents of Cummer Lodge Home for the Aged, is set for 2 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 27. Organized by Cummer's Mitzvah Volunteers, the festivities will feature **Ahuva,** who returns by popular demand to sing international songs and actively involve the residents in her spirited performance. Latkes will be served.

BE A BIG BROTHER

Make a difference in a young boy's life. Jewish Family and Child Service has two boys with special needs who could each benefit from a Jewish Big Brother. If you are interested in being a role model and a friend to a very special young boy, call **Joan Stevens** at 638-7800, ext. 266. And, a nine year old boy in Etobicoke, needs a Jewish Big Brother. Please call Stevens.

YIDDISH IN TORONTO 1992-93

Three Yiddish credit courses are offered at the University of Toronto: Introductory Yiddish, Intermediate Yiddish and A Survey of Yiddish Literature. Other Yiddish groups and courses for various ages, are available through the Committee for Yiddish, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto. For information, on these and university courses, call **Sylvia Lustgarten,** 635-2883 ext. 155.

LEGION CHANUKAH PARTY

Come out for good food and a great evening when branch 256 Ladies Auxiliary, Royal Canadian Legion, holds a Chanukah Party 8 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 19 at 968 Eglinton Ave. W. Cost is $7.50 per person. For tickets, call **Dinah,** 661-1270 or **Ray,** 663-7274.

JEWISH CAMP COUNCIL

Register now for a cross-country ski camp, boys and girls ages 8-16, during school break Sunday, Dec. 20-Friday, Dec. 25 at Maple Lake Resort and Conference Centre, near Parry Sound. This exciting package includes ski equipment, excellent supervision, classes, winter sports, crafts and much more. Kosher food. Cost, $250 plus GST, includes transportation. To inquire further and register your child, call 630-1180.

And, don't delay, register for cross-country family ski fun at Maple Lake, Sunday, Dec. 20-Dec. 27. A variety of packages are available, all including transportation, three kosher meals daily, x-country skiing plus other outdoor as well as indoor activities. For more information, telephone 630-1180.

LEAH POSLUNS THEATRE SCHOOL

Benefit from excellent theatre training at introductory to advanced classes for beginners and professionals, children and adults, offered by Leah Posluns Theatre School. To inquire, call 636-1880, ext. 287/298. Winter classes begin the week of Jan. 18.

JEWISH VEGETARIAN SOCIETY

The Jewish Vegetarian Society presents the second event, Cochin Jews of India, in its series on foods and cultures of Jewish ethnic peoples. Join the group for brunch Sunday, Dec. 20 in the Zionist Building, 788 Marlee Ave. For further

[Cont'd. on page 21]

FOUNDERS' STONE

Pearl Sherman, the latest Canadian "founder" of Jerusalem's Shaare Zedek Medical Centre, accepts a founder's stone from Alex Grossman, chair of the board of the Canadian Shaare Zedek Hospital Foundation. With Sherman are her son William, (left) and nephew, Eric Feldbloom. The donation was in memory of Sherman's husband, Leo, who had been a longtime Shaare Zedek supporter.

BRESLIN FETED

The Construction and Development Division of State of Israel Bonds recently honored Canada's King of Comedy, Mark Breslin at its annual Festival of Festivals gala event. Shown here: (lower right) Mark Breslin with his mother Matilda Breslin. Looking on are Festival co-chairs Fred Guth (left) and Barrie Feiner.

Organizations and People

What's New

[Cont'd. from page 20]

information and to reserve, call **Evelyn,** 465-3511 (days) 485-9164 (evenings) or **Tom,** 661-1116.

BEACH HEBREW INSTITUTE

The Beach Hebrew Institute, 109 Kenilworth Ave., is a thriving congregation in the Beach area of Toronto. Members welcome you to join them for Shabbat services every Saturday at 9 a.m. Call 694-7942 for information about other services and programs.

VOLUNTEER FOR REENA

Be a PAL-unteer and help someone who is developmentally handicapped to learn important basic values such as trust, friendship and caring. For additional information, please call **Arlene Margolese** at the REENA Foundation, 787-0131.

MAPLE LAKE SINGLES WEEKEND

Singles, enjoy a New Year's weekend with x-country ski classes, snowshoeing, tobogganning, music, fitness classes, movies and more, at Maple Lake Resort and Conference Centre, near Parry Sound, Thursday, Dec. 31-Sunday, Jan. 3. This package includes accommodation, three kosher meals daily and evening refreshments. Cost, $215 per person (double occupancy) also covers a champagne party to ring in the New Year.

Call 630-1880 for more information and to reserve.

CHILDREN'S BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Hold your child's birthday party at the JCC Valley, 7015 Leslie St. For details, call **Elaine,** 889-0813.

BETH SHOLOM ADULT EDUCATION

Lunch and Learn with **Rabbi Irvin Brandwein,** follows Shabbat morning services at Beth Sholom Synagogue, Saturday, Dec. 19. Cost is $12 per person. Reserve at synagogue office by Thursday, Dec. 17. For further information, call 783-6103.

EPILEPSY SUPPORT GROUP

An epilepsy support network is forming. The program will focus on sharing of experiences, stress management and creativity. To inquire further, call **Reisa Gula,** 889-7534.

WOMEN'S MUTUAL SUPPORT GROUP

Jewish Family and Child Service is offering a group for women experiencing violence in their intimate relationships. This begins in the new year. For details, call **Pat Lieberman,** 638-7800 ext. 215.

JF & CS WORKSHOPS

1. Parenting: Our Challenge in the 90s- includes groups on Parenting Teens; Parenting the Preschooler; Step Parenting; The Older Parent; Parenting Adopted Children.
2. Midlife, Menopause and Me.
3. For Men Only - improving social skills and being more comfortable with others.

For more information concerning workshops, fees and registration, call **Pat Lieberman,** 638-7800.

THYROID FOUNDATION MEETING

Endocrinologist **Dr. Daniel Drucker,** will examine Graves Disease (questions and answers) at a meeting of the Thyroid Foundation of Canada, in the lecture theatre, Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, 2075 Bayview Ave., Dec. 12.

For additional information, call 740-7500.

MIELEC FORCED LABOR CAMP

Survivors of the Mielec forced labor camp in Germany are sought by the Anti-Defamation League in response to a request from the Stuttgart prosecutor's office. The call is out for persons who could provide relevant information about the camp and testify against **Josef Schwammberger,** camp commandant.

Contact **Elliott Welles,** director, ADL Nazi War Criminals Task Force, 823 United Nations Plaza, New York, N.Y., 10017, or prosecutor **Kurt Schrimm,** Staatsanwaltschaft, Stuttgart, Neckerstrasse 145, Stuttgart 10, Germany.

BOOK FAIR

Rabbi Erwin Schild, author of World Through My Window, will be speaking on The Sermon As A Literary Form, 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Dec. 13 at Jewish Book Fair. His book is available at religious book stores and through Adath Israel Synagogue, 635-5340.

at the JCC

JCC Valley, 7015 Leslie St., invites you to Chanukah For Kids, (ages 2-5) with cartoonist, clay designing, music, painting and more, 1-3 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17. Refreshments. Cost is $2 members, $3 non-members. To inquire further, call 889-0813.

During winter break on Dec. 21, 25 and 28, JCC Valley offers the following programs for ages 6-12: Sports Drawing with **Simon** and Clothes Painting with **Cheryl,** 1-2:30 p.m. each program. Cost is $5 per day. Call 889-0813.

Ongoing at the JCC Valley, are low impact fitness classes for adults, 9:30-10:30 a.m, Tuesdays and Fridays, $5 per class.

It's Reggae Night 8:30 p.m.Saturday, Dec. 19 at the Bloor Y branch JCC, 750 Spadina Ave., when **Ronnie Wiseman and Band Kadusha,** perform Jerusalem/Jamaican music. Tickets, available at the Bloor Y are $10. For advance tickets call **Luni,** 924-6211.

The Bloor Y branch JCC Concerts for Kids presents *Chanukah!!* which tells the story of Chanukah through original and traditional song, with costumes, masks and puppets. Lots of audience participation. Suitable for ages 3-8 and their families. Two performances, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 13 at the Y, 750 Spadina Ave. Tickets, $6. Phone orders, 924-6211 Visa/Mastercard accepted.

Winter Vacation Fun Days at the JCC Bloor Y branch, are eight fun-filled days of programs designed for children from senior kindergarten to Grade 6. Activities include swim, gym and a specialty workshop. Register your children for as many days as you wish. Dates are Dec 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31. from 9a.m.-3 p.m. Fee is $27 per day or $200 for eight days.

Gymnastics Winter Vacation Camp (ages 8-12) offers instruction in competitive and beginning levels plus swimming, Dec. 21,22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30, 31, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Fee is $108 for four days, $200, eight days.

for seniors

Aluma Canadian Israeli Club meets Mondays at 15 Hove St. (B'nai Brith Building). On Dec. 14, the comedy *Hagashas Hahiver*, will be screened (in Hebrew). For information, call 782-9432 or 635-5604.

LZA Seniors Club annual Chanukah party with entertainment by **Phil Gold** and his orchestra, is Saturday, Dec. 12 at the Borochov Centre, 272 Codsell Ave. Tickets are available from **Judy Isenman.** Discussion Group meets every Tuesday morning at 10. Ladies Dance Group gets together Tuesdays at 1 p.m. All activities are at the centre.

Jewish Community Centre North Y Branch **Senior Adult Services** Miami vacation at the Sans Souci Jan. 12-Feb. 2, (additional weeks available) includes meals, health spa, trips, activities, all tips, and much more. Contact **Teme Kernerman,** 636-1880. ext. 364.

Book now for **Earl Bales Seniors Club** New Year's Eve dinner Dance, 7-12 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 31. Members $28, non-members, $30. Upcoming events include the movie, *An Affair to Remember* starring **Cary Grant** and **Deborah Kerr,** 2 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23; 5-pin bowling for members, 1 p.m. Mondays at York Bowlerama; local day trips for members ($5); ongoing activities sponsored by North York Board of Education. For information, call 636-7856.

The Wagman Centre Self- Help Widows Group 55 years of age and over, meets every other Sunday to help each other deal with mourning, adjust to loss, share experiences and make new friends. The next meeting is 1-2:30 p.m. Dec. 13 in the boardroom, 55 Ameer Ave. Group co-ordinator is **Toby Warsh.** For information, call **Paula David,** 789-5131, ext. 2271.

A Chanukah celebration for Wagman Centre Terrace residents, families and members, features The Heritage Players in a Chanukah musical directed by **Morris Nusyna,** 3-4:30 p..m. Sunday, Dec. 20 in the Assembly Room. Residents free, guests $5, members $4, children (12 and under) $2.50. RSVP at the Wagman office by Dec. 14.

The Wagman Centre series, What is Normal? video, film and discussion, Wednesdays, 3-4:30 p.m. in the Fireside Lounge, continues Dec. 16 with Women Who Don't Have Husbands, Part II film- *Mothers are People.*

Bloor Y branch Good Age Club, 750 Spadina Ave., invites you to a Chanukah Party with entertainment by the *Bubbies and Zadies*, 2:15 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17. Admission $6. Light bite will be served. Call **Luni,** 924-6211 to reserve.

Shaarei Shomayim Friendship Club bookings for the Israel trip in March are almost complete. At 1 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14, **Meyer Dorn** will give a very interesting presentation. Enjoy a Chanukah luncheon with entertainent by **Lenka Lichtenberg,** 12:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 21. Ongoing programs under sponsorship of North York Board of Education continue. For information on all programs and trips, call **Lena,** 785-5773 or **Ruth,** 224-5923. Remember the Golden Book to mark special occasions. Call **Dorothy Bloomfield,** 787-1526.

Join the **Young at Heart Seniors** trip to Florida for one or two months or choose your stay, at the Seabrook Hotel in Surfside. Everyone welcome. Partners available. Call **Helen,** 635-6343.

Womens Division plans a two or three week trip to Israel at the end of April. Call **Lil,** 635-6343.

CENTRE FOR CREATIVE LIVING

The Bernard Betel Centre for Creative Living is located at 1003 Steeles Ave. W. Phone number is 225-2112.

Lifelong Learning Institute presents The Past, The Holocaust and Coming to Israel, slides and narrative, by artist/sculptor **Hyman Reches,** 1:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 14 in the synagogue. Members free, non-members, $2.

Join in duplicate bridge every Tuesday. Mini lesson 6:45 p.m. Game time, 7 p.m. sharp. Everyone welcome. No duplicate experience necessary. Partners are provided. $3 per person.

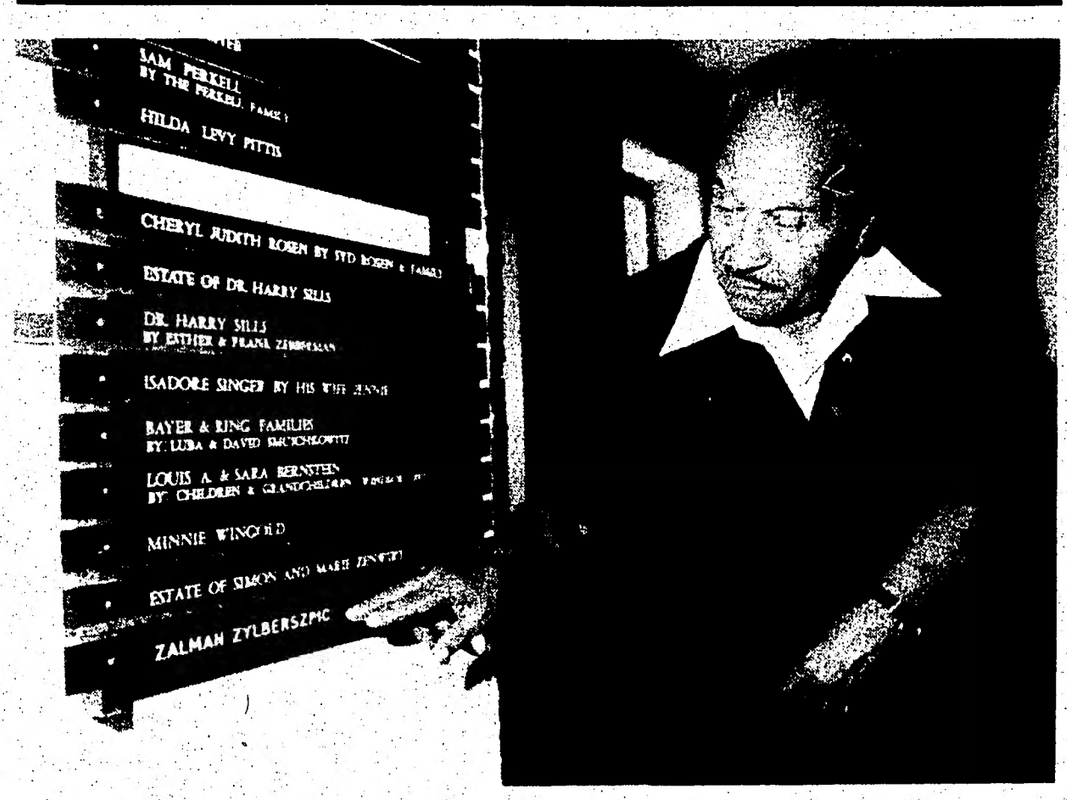
The Friendship Circle, for single people 55 years and over, meets at the centre 7 p.m. every other Thursday. On Dec. 10, **Eadis Vaughan** will share slides on picturesque Hawaii.

Dance to the music of the Creative Band, Sunday, Dec. 13, from 7:30-10:30 p.m. Members $3.50, non-members $4.

Etrog, an Israeli cultural club for Hebrew speaking adults, meets every Wednesdy at 7 p.m. Programs include movies, lectures, concerts and dances. Come and join in all the interesting events. For more information, call **Anna,** 225-2112.

GROUNDBREAKING

Louis Greenbaum, chair of the Associated Hebrew Schools groundbreaking ceremonies, is seen presenting a shovel to City of Vaughan Mayor Lorna Jackson, as a memento of this historic occasion.


SAM PERKELL
BY THE PERKELL FAMILY
HILDA LEVY PITTS
CHERYL JUDITH ROSEN BY SYD ROSEN & FAMILY
ESTATE OF DR. HARRY SILLS
DR. HARRY SILLS
BY ESTHER & FRANK ZEMMAN
ISADORE SINGER BY HIS WIFE JENNY
BAYER & RING FAMILIES
BY LUBA & DAVID SMUCHKOWITZ
LOUIS A. & SARA BERNSTEIN
BY CHILDREN & GRANDCHILDREN
MINNIE WINGOLD
ESTATE OF SIMON AND MARIE ZENGUT
ZALMAN ZYLBERSZPIC

SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT

Alec Caspi, a board member of Canadian ORT Ontario region, and staunch supporter of ORT Israel schools, visits the ORT Jerusalem School of Engineering, Canada building. He and his family have established a scholarship project at this school in memory of his very young son, Zalman Zylberszpic, who perished during the Holocaust.

Espresso & Capuccino Demo this Sat., Dec. 12

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Organizations and People

Police combat hate crimes

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

Beginning on Jan. 1, members of Metro Toronto's police force will be designated to combat hate-motivated crimes, but Canadian Jewish Congress spokesman David Satok said that what is needed is creation of a full-fledged, special unit dedicated to the task.

At a meeting last week of the Metro Toronto Police Services Board (MPSB), chair Susan Eng pointed out that what is being considered is not creation of a specific unit, but a means of co-ordinating resources within the police force, along with a clear committment to take strong action on hate-motivated crimes.

That includes training, recognizing when bias crimes occur, support to front-line officers and monitoring trends, she said.

Deputy chief designate David Boothby told reporters outside the MPSB hearing room that a special "unit" will be created that will comprise a "security section of the intelligence bureau."

Part of the intelligence section's current mandate is to investigate subversive groups that may already be involved in hate-motivated crimes, he said.

The new section will correlate information on hate-motivated crimes, obtain victim-impact statements from those targetted in bias crimes and gather data on "global" trends, Boothby said.

Earlier, in a report to the MPSB, Boothby said a key step in the police response to bias crimes will be to to educate all police officers in a one-day course "so they understand fully what a hate-motivated crime is."

Both Congress and the League for Human Rights of B'nai Brith, which made deputations to the MPSB, urged police to tackle the problem of bias crimes.

In prepared remarks, Satok, chair of community relations for Congress, called for creation of a special, high profile unit that "must have teeth." The unit should:

- Be linked to the intelligence unit.
- Be led by a senior police officer and receive special training.
- Gather data on hate-motivated crimes.
- Be in contact with minority and vulnerable groups targetted in hate crimes.

PROTEST AGAINST DAVID IRVING

Members of the Canadian Society for Yad Vashem and the Canadian Holocaust Remembrance Association marched in pouring rain outside Canadian Immigration offices in downtown Toronto, to protest the entry into Canada of Holocaust-denier David Irving.

Correction

TORONTO —

In the article, Nachman slams Labor for policy in territories, in the Nov. 26 issue of *The CJN* the sponsoring organization was inadvertently left out of the article. Nachman's appearance was jointly sponsored by the Toronto Zionist Council and Herut-Likud. He spoke at the Zionist Centre on Marlee Avenue.

Chanukah party organized for Russian immigrants

TORONTO —

About 180 recently arrived Russian immigrants will have their first taste of Chanukah on Dec. 14, at Council House on Bathurst Street.

A festive Chanukah party is being organized by the World Jewry Committee and Chaverot branch of National Council of Jewish Women in association with the Russian Integration Committee of the Jewish Women's Federation.

The evening will begin with a welcome in Russian by Rabbi Yosif Zaltsman of the Jewish Russian Community Centre of Toronto. He will conduct a candle-lighting ceremony with assistance from a young Russian girl and boy.

The young children will be entertained by the antics of Dudu the clown. There will be dancing to the tunes of Alex Balaganov on the keyboard.

There will be chocolate Chanukah gelt and dreidles for the kids and refreshments prepared by the volunteers for the adults.

The newcomer guests are being recruited by the Community Integration Program, a joint project of The Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and the Jewish Community Centre of Toronto.

SINGLES EVENTS

Singles Events is an advertising feauture of The Canadian Jewish News. ***Deadline is Monday, 5:00 p.m., 10 days preceding issue date.*** *For rates or to place an ad, please call Alan at 422-2528.*

The Flamingo Club
(Sunday, December 27)
End Of The Year Gala Event
More Details Next Week
12974

Jewish Dateline presents **Wendy Dennis** author of "Hot and Bothered" speaking on "Men and Women, Sex and Love in the 1990's". Sunday, December 13. 8:00pm. At the 16th Annual **Jewish Book Fair**, Leah Posluns Theatre, 4588 Bathurst Street. Reception following. $6.00 admission. 789-0110. 12713

A Touch of Class (35-55) presents **Oneg Shabbat Mix and Mingle Party**. December 25th. 8:00pm. Cost $15.00. Limited space.
New Year's Eve Champagne Party (Prime Rib, Salmon Buffet.) Champagne at Midnight. 8:00pm. Cost $25.00 advance, $30.00 door. Reserve early, limited space. Call Sonia, 737-4076. 12939

Freddy Jay's Latkah-The-Nite-Away. Saturday, December 19. $10.00. Guaranteed Laffs!! 633-9256. 12926

Reserve for R.S.V.P.. An intimate candlelit evening of roundtable discussions for Jewish professionals in their 20's and 30's. A better way for people to meet and exchange thoughts on relationships, career, sexuality and spirituality. December 23; "Latkas and Assimilation". $8.00. Reservations a must. Phone 636-7530. 12767

X-mas Bash '92-NOT! Thursday, December 24-Barracuda (old Copa premises) 21 Scollard Street. 921-4496. Huge party with batting cages, volleyball court, 10 pool tables, dance floor and more... Come meet, mingle, dance and party. Only $10.00! The Boys- Greener, Huber and Eisen. 12963

Sharon Ganz and Associates present **Chanukah in Miami Beach**. Sans Souci Resort. December 20-31 (guaranteed lowest prices). For more information call Ruth Balofsky 764-5833, Sharon Ganz 785-0761. 12970

Jeff Perlmutar invites you to a Super Singles Bash on Thursday, December 24 at the JCC Valley, 7015 Leslie Street (north of Steeles). 8:30pm. Numerous door prizes. Next day is a non-work day. Celebrate our last dance of '92 with our great summer gang. Admission $10.00. For further information call Elaine 889-0813. 12928

Metro Toronto Singles presents our 7th Annual Chanukah Party at **Berlin and Yuk-Yuk's Uptown** (2335 Yonge Street, north of Eglinton). Thursday, December 24. 7:00pm. (Christmas Eve). Traditionally our largest party of the year. **222-7111** for information. 12945

Beit Halochem Canada presents a brunch with Israeli spy novelist **Steven Hartov**, author of **"The Heat of Ramadan"**. Sunday, December 13. 11:00am. 10 Tichester (party room). $15. Tickets: call 488-7649. 12771

Having a Pot Luck Party. Saturday, December 12. 30-50 years. Call Martin, 731-4085. 12949

****Mix and Mingle Night****
New Image 50 Plus Singles
For an enjoyable evening on Sunday, December 13 at Earl Bales Community Centre. 7:30pm. Refreshments. **Tapes by Murray Jacobs**. Members $2.00, guests $3.00. Everybody welcome! 12885

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Organizations and People

Leo Baeck, Reform group moving to Thornhill

By BILL GLADSTONE

TORONTO —
The Canadian Council for Reform Judaism has launched a $2.5 million fundraising drive for a new school building that will also serve as the Canadian Centre for Reform Judaism (CCRJ).

A three-acre site on Atkinson Avenue at Campbell Avenue in Thornhill has been selected as the new location of the Leo Baeck School, whose 385 students currently occupy leased premises on Kenton Drive and in classrooms at the Holy Blossom Temple.

"It's essentially going to be a 40,000 square foot building that will function as the main campus of Leo Baeck Day School and will also house the administration for the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism," said Stephen Morrison, a past president of the school and a longstanding officer of the CCRJ.

"It will be a hub of communal activity, day and night, 12 months of the year."

Although the building's estimated cost exceeds $5 million, parents of Leo Baeck students have committed to paying half that amount over time, according to philanthropist-businessman Murray Koffler, who is the honorary chair of the campaign.

"We're planning numerous alumni and special events, each one of which could raise $100,000 or more, so we're well on the way to raising the necessary $2.5 million," said Koffler.

Two substantial donations were announced at a recent CCRJ reception that took place in a top floor lounge of the Four Seasons Hotel on Yorkville Avenue.

Leslie and Judy Dan are giving $1 million towards the centre. Leslie Dan is president of Novpharm Ltd., a generic pharmaceutical company based in Scarborough.

As well, Koffler and his wife Marvelle and their son Thomas announced a donation of $250,000. Murray Koffler is the founder of the Shoppers Drug Mart chain and one of the original partners in the Four Seasons chain of hotels.

Present at the launching of the fundraising drive for Leo Baeck and the Canadian Centre for Reform Judaism's new building are (from left) Leslie Dan, Murray Koffler, Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld and Judy Dan.

Numerous rabbis were present at the Four Seasons event. They included Rabbi Jordan Pearlson from Temple Sinai; Rabbi Dow Marmur and Rabbi Gunther Plaut from Holy Blossom; Rabbi Michael Stroh from Temple Har Zion; Rabbi Arthur Bielfeld from Temple Emanuel; Rabbi Daniel Gottlieb,; director of the Canadian Council for Reform Judaism; and Rabbi Elise Goldstein from the Kolel.

CCRJ publicist Carole Sterling told *The CJN* that the organization hopes to break ground for the new building next spring and to see it completed by September 1994.

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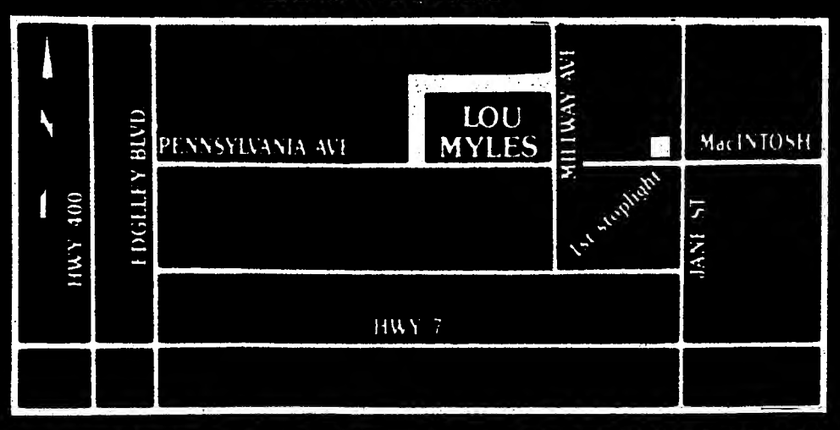

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Organizations and People

UJA into the 'home stretch'

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO —
United States' president-elect Bill Clinton and Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin of Israel "are not starting off as friends," Dan Cohen, a lobbyist for the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, said here recently.

Relations between the two are strained because Rabin expressed support for President George Bush during the U.S. election campaign, Cohen said. "That sticks in the craw of the president[-elect] and his staff."

Cohen said a private meeting was arranged between Clinton and Rabin, after Rabin's support for Bush became known, "but the result was not good."

The lobbyist said the Jewish community is expecting "too much" from Clinton in the way of help for Israel, "and I don't think he will reach those expectations, let's not get carried away."

Cohen spoke to a "home stretch" rally of United Jewish Appeal canvessers at Inn on the Park which heard enthusiastic reports about the success of the campaign so far and its potential in the closing weeks.

A total of $31,251,000 was collected to Nov. 30, a 12.6 percent increase ($3.5 million) over this date last year, said David Engel, co-chair of the Volunteer Relations Committee. He added that volunteers are brimming with confidence that they'll cover the remaining 10,045 cards in time to bring the campaign to a potential total of $42,394,000.

Cohen is one of five AIPAC lobbyists in Washington. Because budgets in the U.S. capital have to be cut and foreign aid is contracting, he said "we need a positive relationship" between Clinton and Rabin. "How are we going to bring these men together?" he asked.

Sheila and David Engel, co-chairs of UJA volunteer relations. [Graphic Artists photo]

Despite differences Rabin has expressed with the AIPAC, Cohen said the Israeli prime minister had decided to make his first speech in the United States since his election at an AIPAC policy conference in Washington next March.

In answer to a question, Cohen said the AIPAC is not "anti-Labor," and predicted that the Likud opposition in Israel will be describing AIPAC as "pro-Labor."

With 110 new members in the House of Representatives and 12 new senators in the Upper House, the AIPAC has its work cut out in bringing them the message of Israel's needs. "I believe it to be the most pro-Israel congress ever," he said.

Co-chair Sheila Engel announced that Super Sunday II is to be held Dec. 13 and telephone volunteers are welcome.

The air of confidence among the elite canvassers present at the affair went up another notch with a new $100,000 donation from Louis Frieberg who paid tribute to the canvassers.

Mark Gryfe, director, said the campaign is ahead of last year in every respect and the "home stretch" turnout is the best ever for this time of year.

Urging renewed dedications by the volunteers, Julia Koschitzky, world president of Karen Hayesod, said it is costing the Jewish Agency $40,000,000 a month to bring Jews to Israel from the former Soviet Union and from Sarajevo.

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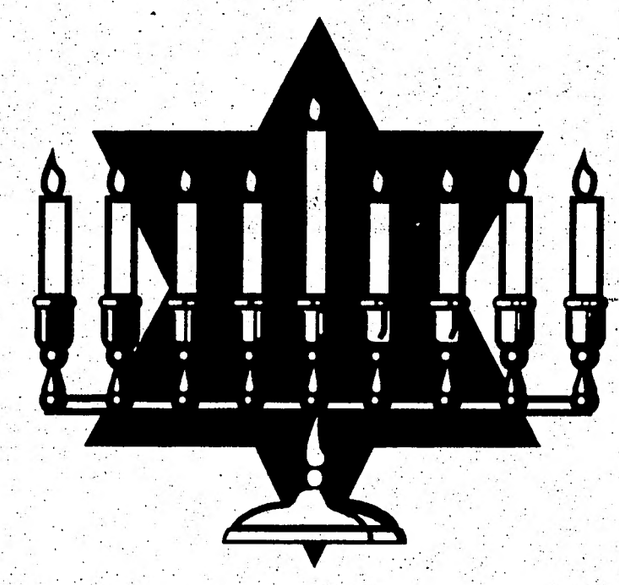

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Dear CJN Reader:

In the November 5 issue of The Canadian Jewish News, we published a letter from our editor asking those of you who receive this newspaper as a result of your donation to the United Israel Appeal or the United Jewish Appeal to subscribe directly.

As the editor's letter explained, since 1971 UIA and three local federations--Hamilton, Toronto and Windsor--have been purchasing subscriptions for donors from The CJN at a substantially discounted rate--a rate that has remained unchanged for 21 years. However, the costs of publishing this newspaper have risen substantially. While some of the increase is the result of inflation, a considerable portion of it is due to a change in postal regulations that raised postage rates dramatically in the past 20 months. The amount paid by the Federations for an annual subscription no longer covers even a fraction of the delivery cost.

UIA and the Federations cannot increase the amount they pay for subscriptions--the needs of local communities and in Israel are pressing and must be met.

But The Canadian Jewish News cannot continue to maintain its coverage of news that is important to you as a member of your Jewish community--and which is available from no other single publication--without an increase in subscription revenue.

By completing and returning the subscription form included with your December 3 issue last week, you can help to bridge the gap by covering the cost of delivering The CJN to you.

Over the past 21 years, we believe we have become truly a newspaper for, and of, the community, open to a wide range of views, and joining our communities to each other and to Israel. By subscribing personally, you can help to maintain a vital link with Canadian and world Jewry--and ensure that every dollar of your UJA or UIA contribution is put to work directly where it is most needed.

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Windsor Jewish Federation

Cartoon character seen as offensive to Jews

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

A "silly" portrait of a cartoon character sporting a six-pointed star has created a not-so-silly controversy.

A caricature in a children's book titled, *The Silly Book*, "promotes an ugly and inappropriate Jewish stereotype," said a letter from Canadian Jewish Congress to Octopus Publishing Group Canada, distributors of the book in Canada.

" 'Silly beards' presents a figure of a man with a black hat, a large bulbous nose and a long dark beard. Appended on the left side of the caricature's coat is an unmistakeable Jewish Star of David," the letter stated.

"We were shocked to see such an ugly caricature in a book, especially one aimed at children," the letter added.

The book contains cartoon caricatures of people and animals, with exaggerated, silly poses.

Derek Day, spokesman for Octopus, said the book distribution company was not responsible for the book's contents. "We've noted the views [of Congress] and communicated them to the United Kingdom publishers who will bring it to the attention of the author," he said.

Susan Jasper, director of sales and marketing for Octopus Books, said she is writing to Babette Cole, the book's author, to ask that the badge be removed in future editions.

She said Octopus is a part of Reed International books, which has a strong Judaic list of books that are known for their excellence.

"We're very sensitive to Jewish concerns and I can assure you there was no intentional portrayal of a Jewish character here," she said. "It's my understanding that it was [intended to portray] a French sheriff."

Congress spokesman David Satok said that after similar complaints were raised, the Star of David was removed from the French-language version of the book.

In Toronto, the World's Biggest Bookstore removed its remaining copies of *The Silly Book* from its shelves.

Helena Aalto, communications manager for Coles Book Stores, said the national chain will keep the few remaining copies of the book on the shelves.

Aalto said the character was never intended to be a Jewish man, but simply a sheriff wearing a badge.

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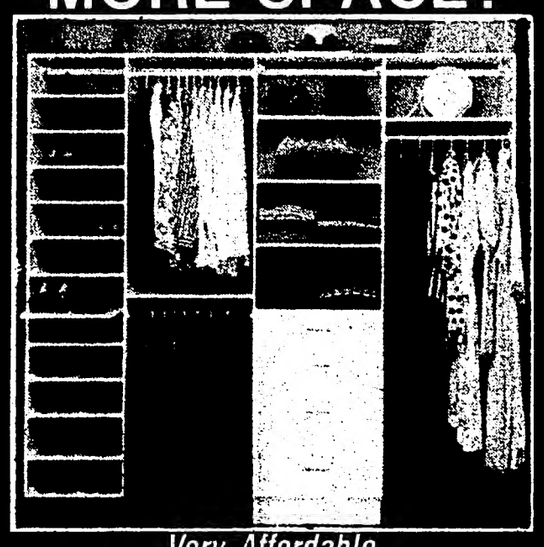

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Organizations and People

Jewish newsmakers

Renee Bloom (one of the residents at the Garthdale triplex) and Ira Sack, vice-chair of Reena, made a presentation on behalf of Reena to (from left) Lou Frustaglio, chair of Renovation Month, and Terry Kaufman, who took charge of the project. [Barry Shainbaum photo]

Reena triplex renovated

TORONTO — The Greater Toronto House Builders' Association (GTHBA) renovation and redevelopment council recently completed a renovation blitz at one of Reena's locations. Throughout the month of October, GTHBA members volunteered their time, expertise, materials and labor to complete an interior renovation of a triplex at 62 Garthdale Ct., in North York.

The renovation consisted of repainting and recarpeting the three units. In addition, the kitchen cupboards, bathroom sinks, toilets, showers and tiling were replaced.

"Despite tough economic times, the support from our members has been tremendous," said renovation month chair, Lou Frustaglio. "This renovation project is just another way our members reach out into the community," he said.

Participating GTHBA members included: A. M. Boyd Projects Ltd., American Standard, Bank of Montreal, BOCO Inc., Canada Brick Co., Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, Canac Kitchens Ltd., Chislett Asphalt Roofing Ltd., Colewood Construction Ltd., Dreambuilders Ltd., Fairbank Lumber, The Gotkin Group, Greenpark Homes, Josh Developments Ltd., Mar-Bern Construction Ltd., Marantz Strong Wall, North End Interiors, Lansing Buildall, Olympia Tile International, Stephenson's Rent-All and Walder and McSweeney Contracting.

* * *

Harnick speaks out

TORONTO — Charles Harnick, MPP for Willowdale, made the following statement in the Legislative Assembly following Holocaust Education Week:

Now that the provincial Legislature has resumed sitting after constituency week, I would like to take this opportunity to discuss the recently concluded Holocaust Education Week. I don't think the importance of Holocaust Education Week to both the Jewish community and to the people of Ontario can be overstated.

In the 1930s and 1940s over six million Jews were systematically annihilated by the Nazis in virtually every town, village and city in eastern Europe.

The best means of ensuring that the atrocities of the Holocaust are not repeated is through education. Through education, hopefully, we can learn that racism is unacceptable and intolerable in any form.

In the past few weeks there has been an increase in neo-Nazi demonstrations in Germany. Right here in Canada a so-called historian was deported because he denies the authenticity of the Holocaust. Earlier this year, in the Toronto area, three synagogues were desecrated with racist, anti-Jewish slogans.

While it is discouraging to hear of events such as these in the 1990s, these events serve to reinforce the importance of Holocaust Education Week. So long as there are people who deny the facts of the Holocaust or threaten the rights of any race, we must redouble our efforts to educate the public about the importance of history and of the basic reality of human rights.

The generation of Holocaust survivors is coming to an end. It is important that we, the next generation, remember and deepen our understanding of this dark period in history. The goal of Holocaust Education Week is awareness. Our generation must ensure that the tragedies of the past are never forgotten. We must never forget.

* * *

BGU enrolment up

TORONTO — More than 8,100 students are attending Ben-Gurion University in the 1992/93 academic year which commenced on Nov. 1st. This represents a rise of eight percent over last year. Among the students are 200 new immigrants, who will bring the number of immigrant students up to 950.

The university plans to absorb about 50 new faculty members to meet the needs of the growing student population.

* * *

CBCF aids Breast Cancer Centre

TORONTO — The Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF) has announced it will pledge $500,000 towards the Breast Cancer Centre to open at the new Princess Margaret Hospital on University Avenue in Toronto in the spring of 1995.

"The new clinic will be a permanent facility solely to the early detection, treatment, supportive care and education of women with breast cancer," stated Carole Grafstein, chair of the Ontario chapter of the CBCF. "We invite companies and individuals to support our efforts by making donations to the CBCF fundraising campaign."

The Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation (CBCF) is a non-profit organization dedicated exclusively to the support and funding of breast cancer research, education and awareness.

Breast cancer is the number one killer of women between the ages of 35-54 in Canada. In 1992, over 15,000 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and over 5,000 will die of the disease.

In 1992 alone, the CBCF grants totalled $311,500 targeted specially at breast cancer research.

* * *

Vancouver synagogue turns 60

VANCOUVER — Exactly 60 years after the congregation was formally incorporated under the British Columbia Societies Act on Nov. 26, 1932, Congregation Beth Israel celebrated its 60th anniversary — one of the first shuls in the city and the first Conservative congregation.

The anniversary was marked with a special weekend of activities highlighting as guest speaker poet and author Danny Siegel, known as the "mitzvah man." Appropriately enough, he spoke at the Friday night service on Mitzvah Heroes — or How Anybody Can Be a Miracle Worker. The weekend wound up with a dinner dance.

* * *

Lichtblau Nursing Awards announced

TORONTO — Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care is proud to announce the winners of the 1992 Lichtblau Nursing Awards. The awards, supported by an endowment fund from Saul and Fela Lichtblau, are given each year to members of the nursing staff who are involved in upgrading their academic or practical skills.

The award winners for 1992 are:

- Edna Schmelefske, a registered nursing assistant at Baycrest Hospital, who will use her award to continue pursuing her registered nurse's degree;
- Celedonai Asilan, a health care aide at the Jewish Home for the Aged, who will use her award to train as a registered nursing assistant;
- Marilyn Rodgers, a head nurse at Baycrest Hospital, who will use her award to complete courses for a baccalaureate degree in nursing;
- Ruby Bedana, a head nurse in the Jewish Home for the Aged, who will use her award to complete her master's degree in nursing;
- Patricia Bulgin, a registered nurse at Baycrest Hospital, who will use her award to complete courses in coronary care.

This year the awards were presented by Hartley Lichtblau.

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The Beth Tzedec Congregation is again pleased to offer the annual Stephen Cooper Award. Any young person between 18 and 30, who displays outstanding leadership qualities and interest in the Jewish community is eligible.

Up to $2,000 will be awarded to further education and/or to advance artistic, literary and social fields of study or work.

Interested applicants may enquire as to eligibility requirements and further information by calling Beth Tzedec at 781-3511, or writing to: Caryl Himelfarb, Chairperson, Stephen Cooper Award Committee, Beth Tzedec Congregation, 1700 Bathurst Street, Toronto, Ont. M5P 3K3.

Deadline for applications is February 1, 1993

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HOLIDAY GIFTS

What's in store?

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN

Whether you are looking for a gift for a loved one, a child, a teacher, your boss or your next door neighbor, you will be sure to find something at the Promanade Shopping Centre on Bathurst, north of Steeles of Centrepoint at Yonge and Steeles. or Centrepoint at Yonge and Steeles.

Grandparents will be thrilled to receive a picture of their grandchildren embossed on a mug, T-shirt or sweatshirt. Simply take in your favorite photograph to any one of several photo stores and within days you will have a present that will be cherished forever. There is also a treasure trove of picture frames in which you can insert that special photo. Frames with sayings such as I love Grandma or Grandpa are usually a big hit. If you haven't got a favorite photo, many big department stores have photography studios that specialize in family portraits. A professional photograph is a great gift for grandparents, aunts or siblings.

Animal lovers are not forgotten this season and there are a variety of unusual gifts for them. Children will be mesmerized by a stuffed animal barnyard that has miniature chickens, ducks, cows and roosters walking around and making the appropriate noises. A stick horse with a rather authentic looking head neighs when one ear is pulled and makes galloping sounds by pulling the other ear.

Even the telephone stores have gotten in on the act and are selling phones shaped like a dog that barks instead of rings and mallard duck phones that quack.

The pets themselves will be happy to receive store-wrapped gifts containing such goodies as doggy treats, dried fish for cats, canary seeds or a variety of plastic toys. Pampered birds may want to move into a solid brass cage with a clear plastic roof to ensure a perfect view of their surroundings. Of course, the animal lover with no animal will be thrilled to receive a puppy, kitten, goldfish or any number of furry or scaled creatures.

Kitchen gadgets

Getting back to the phone store, there are now phones available to suit every taste. Ferrari phones honk and gumball machine phone gives out a piece of gum every time 25 cents is inserted. Bart Simpson, Mickey Mouse or Snoopy phones are a hit with all the kids. Out of town friends will be sure to keep in touch with long distance gift certificates and if you can never find a close relative home anymore, you may want to consider buying them an answering machine. A second telephone line is the perfect gift for a teenager.

Sports fans can never get enough memorabilia and with the Blue Jays winning the World Series there is no end to the gifts you can give. Aside from the World Series T-shirts and sweatshirts there is the World Series video, Blue Jay uniforms, and a dart game that is played to the rules of baseball. Ticket holders may want a pair of binoculars to ensure they don't miss any of the game and the fan who has too much competition for the television set may appreciate a 12 inch color set of his own.

Cooks cannot resist new kitchen gadgets and no matter how many they have, there is always something they don't have. Depending on how much is in your budget you can buy anything from an apple-corer, egg separator or wooden utensil set to a hand-painted enamel kettle or even a cappuccino-maker. A bright set of plastic dishes is great for the family with young kids.

For those upon whom you can never spend enough, jewelry stores are filled to the brim with presents. Solitaire diamonds set in platinum bands, watches encrusted in authentic gems and cultured pearls in a variety of settings from single strands and rings to stud earrings and brooches are only some of the many ways you can say I love you.

"Best Bet" toy list revealed

The Canadian Toy Testing Council (CTTC) announced recently that Crayola has been awarded Toy Of The Year for the 1992-93 season. The entire line of Crayola products has been chosen because of its outstanding and consistent play value," says Marie Levine of the council.

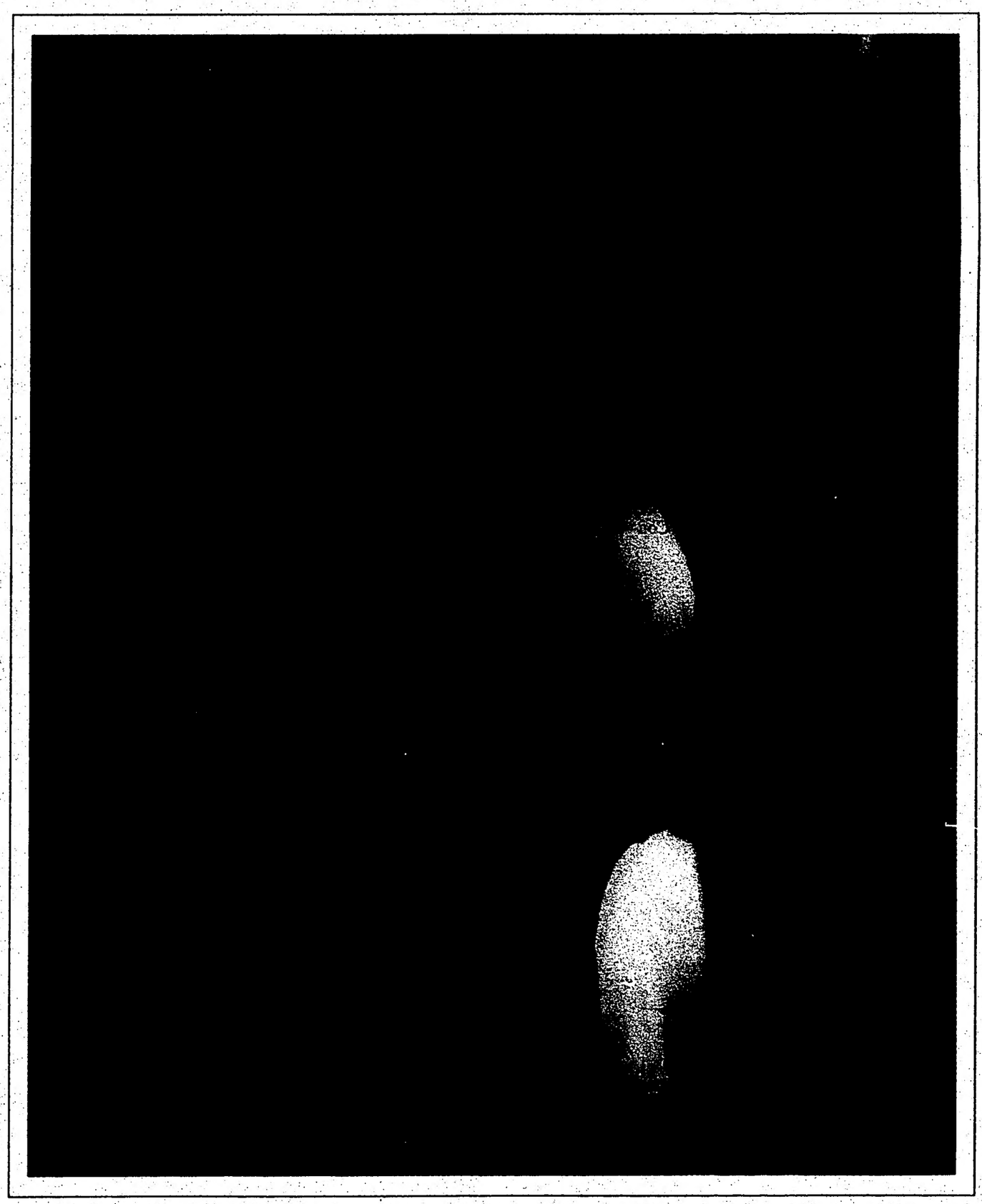
At the same news conference, the CTTC announced their Best Bet list for the year.

"Consumers want to know which toys, from the thousands available on the market, are the best ones," says Levine. "These toys stand out above the others because of their outstanding design, function, durability and play value."

The Best Bet list includes:

- Belle and The Beast by Mattel, $20-$25, 3 years.
- Electronic Passport by Texas Instruments, $40-$50, 8-12 years.
- Fantastic Flowers by Hasbro, $25-$30, 5-8 years.
- Laurentien Kids Jumbo Colored Pencils by Faber-Castell, $5-$10, 3 years +.
- Lego Load 'N Haul Railroad by Lego, $150-$170, 8-12 years.
- Madeline Game by Rasvensburger (Pierre Belvedere), $20-$25, 4-8 years.
- Nature Lab by educational insights, $65-$70, 6 years +.
- Nesting Farm Animals by Little Tikes, $15-$20, 6-24 months.
- Playmobil Treasure Island by Playmobil, $95-$100, 4 years +; and
- Super Kitchen by Gowi (Quality International), $80-$90, 2-6 years.

For 40 years the Toy Report has helped parents choose toys that are fun. The Toy Report helps consumers wade through mountains of advertising and decide which toys will deliver the best play value for the dollar spent.



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HOLIDAY GIFTS

....it store caters to gag gift-giving

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

Kids, its seems, never grow up. No matter how adult, mature and responsible a person may get — whether they're a high-rolling corporate executive or just the beer-swilling hoser down the street — there's a gag gift that's tailor-made for the kid in all of us.

Tchachkes that soar to new heights of adult nahreshkeit are the stock in trade of the . . . . it store, the Canada-wide gift store chain where you can find everything from footstools that look like real feet to slippers that light up in the dark.

In between there are shelf after shelf of whimsical, trendy and even practical gifts that are guaranteed to prompt a chuckle, if not a hearty guffaw, even in the midst of tough times.

Although there's a public perception that it's a kids' store, the main target market for the . . . . it store are 18 to 40-year-olds, says Michael Kleinhandler, franchise owner of three Toronto-area stores.

Whether we're enjoying good times or bad times, "everybody has a birthday every year and for a small amount of money, you can have a gift with a laugh," Kleinhandler says.

Gifts are available in prices running from $1.98 to $199.98 and they range from cartoon greeting cards and coffee mugs to the more risque adult puzzles and trivia games.

The four dots that precede the store's name refer to the concept that master franchiser Jack Green had 12 years ago when he opened the first . . . . it store — wear it, fill it (mugs), wrap it and hug it (stuffed animals).

While last year anything with Bart Simpson on it was a hot seller, this year sales are spread out among a variety of items.

"Over the hill beenies with a propeller on top are flying," he said. "We can't keep them in stock."

An army of researchers scour the continent looking for new products that are "a little different, a little out of the ordinary, crazy, I guess," Kleinhandler says.

By sheer coincidence, many of the latest and craziest in . . . . it store gifts originate in California.

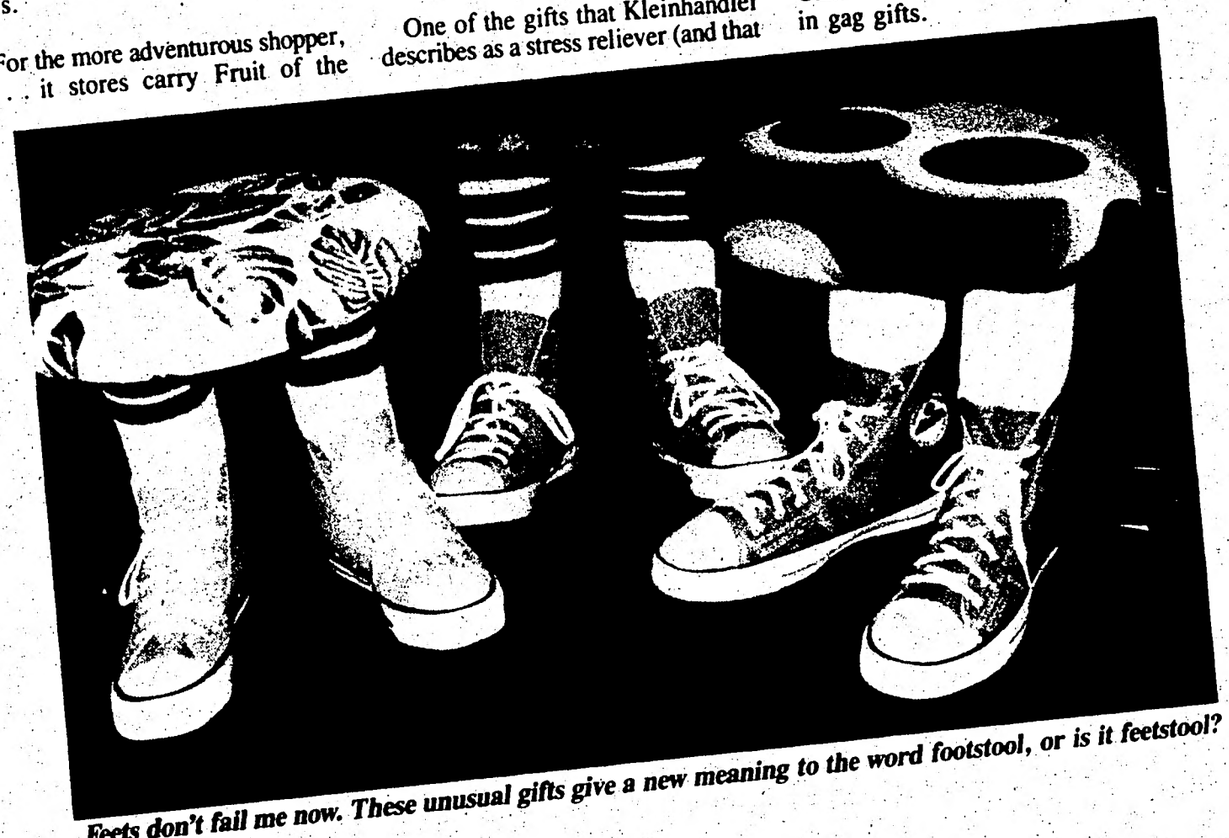
Somewhere in the Golden State, perhaps in the vicinity of Silicon Valley, there's an R & D factory where the brightest minds of our generation are leaving the high tech Japanese in their dust by churning out hot-selling products like overstuffed pig slippers that oink with each step.

Or canes with mirrors attached at the bottom for dirty old men to look up women's dresses. Or mirrors that play the death march when you raise them to your face. Or a voice-activated male doll that automatically agrees with everything his boss says.

For the more adventurous shopper, . . . it stores carry Fruit of the Loins golfing briefs (don't risk a bad putt), Condomints, (practise safe breath), Over the Hill Bosom Buddy Bra (they've fallen and they can't get up), and, to show that questionable taste applies to both sexes, Energizer Briefs (it's fallen and it can't get up).

One of the gifts that Kleinhandler describes as a stress reliever (and that meets the . . . .it store's requirement as whimsical, trendy and even practical) is a toy called Pop Up Willie. Rigorous market-testing at the offices of *The CJN* proved that the flesh-colored rubber product prompted uproarious laughter — at least from the women present.

There are 51 . . . . it stores in Canada catering to all sorts of taste in gag gifts.



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MAKE YOUR OWN WINE

By RACHEL ALKALLAY

Fine wines are becoming the beverage for people both health conscious and taste conscious.

Marc Nadeau, who with his brother John owns and operates The Bacchus Collection in Montreal and The Wine Establishment in Toronto, is himself a connoisseur of fine wines, even though they are not in the business of selling wines.

"People appreciate our wine knowledge and the fact we are connoisseurs," says Nadeau, who has ten years of experience working in the wine trade in Paris, France. The concept for The Wine Establishment, which opened in 1987, came from Marc Nadeau's management of a wine-cellar factory in Luxembourg, which he eventually took over. From there, it was a short step to designing and selling their own wine cellars and expanding to include a full range of wine accessories. The Montreal shop opened in 1989.

Wine remains an important part of the brothers' lives — they organize corporate and private wine-tastings and make presentations at shows. Marc Nadeau recently gave a talk on the different shapes of champagne glasses, complete with tasting, at a weekend wine-tasting at the Hotel Vogue in Montreal.

Collecting wine and enjoying wine as a serious hobby remains a male-dominated interest. A woman will buy a couple of Austrian Riedel crystal glasses (judged to be the finest in the world for wine drinking) for the man in her life; a man will buy six, because drinking is an important part of his life.

Freestanding wine cellars, holding from 50 to 2,000 bottles, are a major part of the business, with 80 percent of cellars sold having a capacity of 50 to 220 bottles. Made of redwood in either Canada or the United States, the units are temperature and humidity-controlled, while keeping color, light and vibrations to a minimum. Many of the cabinets are sized for walking in and selecting the wine of your choice.

Nadeau says that a freestanding wine cellar is ideal for people starting a wine collection and for people living in condominiums or apartments.

For the connoisseur with a home to match, the Nadeau brothers create custom-designed wine cellars, accommodating from 300 to 25,000 bottles. Marc Nadeau will visit the home, hold discussions with the prospective buyer, and design plans in conjunction with architects to suit the individual. Personal style plays a large part in the final look of the cellar — Nadeau recently worked on a cellar with a grotto effect. Another cellar, designed to hold 15,000 bottles in one of Canada's finest wine collections, needed space for an excellent assortment of Riedel glasses.

Oak, mahogany and redwood are the most commonly used woods for the cellars.

And business is booming for custom-designed wine cellars. The company is building an average of one wine cellar weekly. For wine collectors, the addition of a wine cellar is an added value to the home.

Wine racks in wood, metal, or wood and metal are adjustable, and can be added to as a wine collection grows. Beginning with 12 bottles, the racks can hold hundreds of bottles, with the average capacity at 42 bottles. The racks can be clipped together and come with assembly kits for redwood and oak sets.

"The most important aspect of the business is the conversation about wine," says Nadeau, who surrounds himself with wine experts to increase his knowledge of the subject. He attributes the rise in interest in wines partly to the recession, because people prefer to spend money on quality products, and a drink or two of fine wine daily has been shown to decrease the risk of heart attack and to ease tension.

In Toronto, the Case Selection Wine Society is run by the Nadeaus. Members hold monthly wine-tastings, and a quarterly newsletter is issued. A Montreal wine society is planned for next year.

Books on wine, posters, prints, corkscrews and accessories related to the drinking and enjoyment of wine complete the selection available at the shop.

The Bacchus Collection is located at 152 Laurier Ave. in Montreal, telephone 273-3104. In Toronto, the Wine Establishment is located at 250 The Esplanade, Suite 104. Telephone (416) 861-1331 or 1-800-268-8418.

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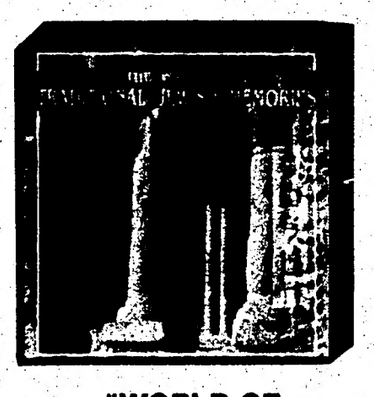

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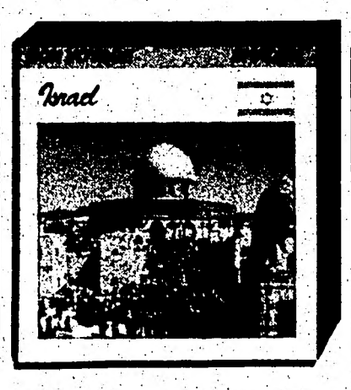

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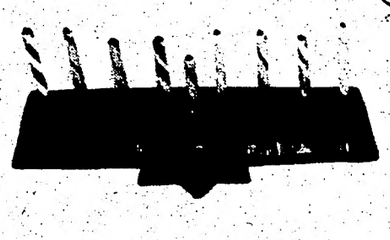

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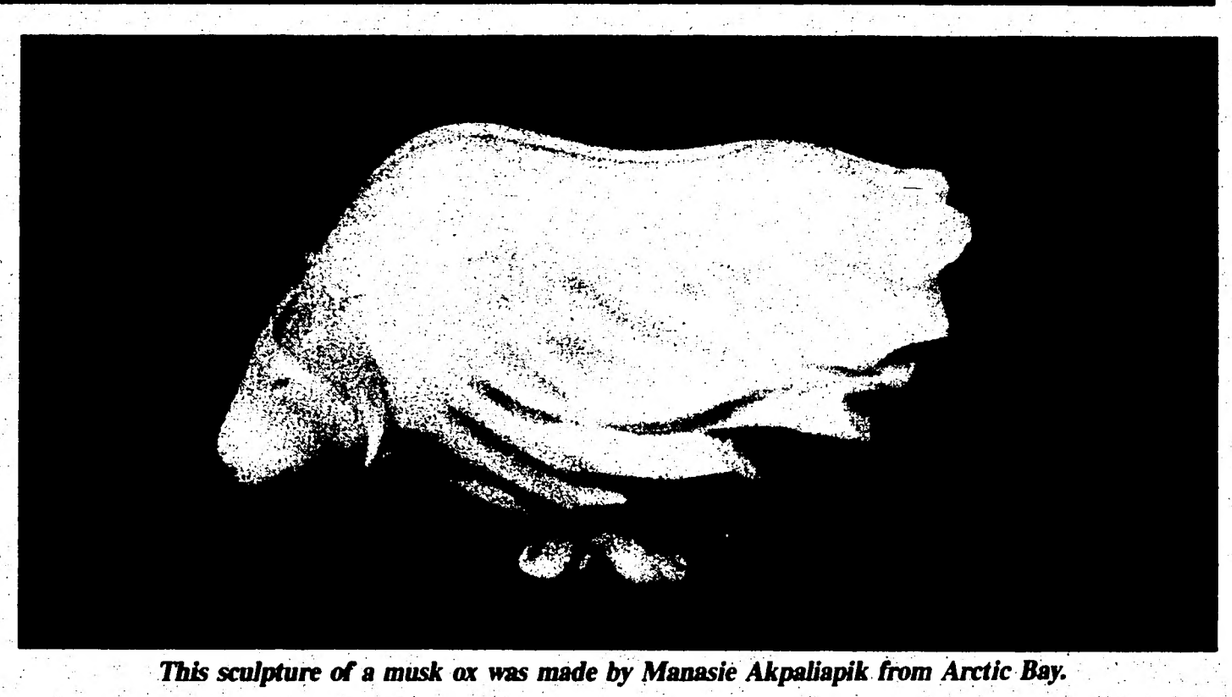

This sculpture of a musk ox was made by Manasie Akpaliapik from Arctic Bay.

Distinctive Inuit art pieces

By CYNTHIA GASNER

One of Canada's foremost dealers and experts in Inuit art can credit his outstanding success to a wedding gift he received more than two decades ago.

Harold Seidelman, owner of images Art Gallery Inc. at 3345 Yonge St., explains that when he married Rosalie (Silverman) in 1970, he moved from Brooklyn, New York to Montreal, where his bride's family lived.

"I was always interested in primitive art and when we received a piece of sculpture called *The Loon* by Inuit artist Abraham Pov, I was so fascinated by this art form. So little was known about it at that time, so within a year, I opened a gallery in Montreal.

"In 1978, when we moved to Toronto I opened Images Art Gallery which is now one of the largest dealers of Inuit sculpture in the country." Pov is one of the artists whose pieces he carries. Siedelman is the exclusive dealer for Manasi Akpaliapik and David Ruben Piqtoukun, whose piece is outside the new Canadian Embassy in Washington. He also carries pieces by Pauta, Kiawak, Kaka, Barbnabas, Lukta and others.

"A good piece just stands out," he explains. "It is powerful, distinctive and any collector can distinguish the artist." He notes that new collectors can begin with small pieces of museum quality Inuit art for $100 and up. There is a wide range of prices, some up to $25,000 and $30,000.

On his way to becoming the largest dealer in Inuit art in the country, Seidelman took every opportunity to study and learn about the Inuit lifestyle and culture. He travelled among them and, today, he serves as an appraiser and consultant to many major museums including the Art Gallery of Ontario, Winnipeg Art Gallery, the National Gallery in Ottawa, the McMichael Gallery and the Museum of Civilization in Hull.

Born in Long Beach, New Jersey, Seidelman lived most of his life in Brooklyn. He received advanced placement in chemistry at Queens College but soon realized that he didn't want to work in this field. He went on to receive a bachelor's degree in psychology at Queens.

"My interest in psychology led me to explore beyond the obvious merits of the works and discover the thinking behind the pieces." He has travelled extensively in the Arctic, gaining first-hand knowledge of the Inuit.

Seidelman is completing a book on Inuit mythology with the proposed title, *The Inuit Imagination*. His knowledge of the Inuit, combined with research about the early explorers and scientists (anthropologists), led him to produce this book.

His wife Rosalie works along with him at the gallery and they have two children, Carrie, 18, and Lani, 13.

Seidelman's keen eye and insight have guided major works of Inuit art into major public and private collections throughout Canada and the world.

His shop, filled with numerous exciting pieces of Inuit sculpture, is a treat to visit, whether one is a collector of not.

And a gift for someone may also start them on a new interest.

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Custom-made hats make great head-turning gifts

By CYNTHIA GASNER

You can take your hat off to the Halperns. Or rather, you may enjoy putting one on.

Since she was a child, Esther Halpern loved knitting. Talented and blessed with an abundance of energy, the mother of four and grandmother of five has kept herself and her family dressed in the most attractive knits. Rarely will you find her in anything but one of her own creations.

A teacher at Mackenzie Collegiate where she teaches law, accounting, marketing and history, last year she teamed up with her daughter-in-law, Ellen Halpern, who has been involved in fashion and retailing since she was a child to form Fancy Me, a custom designed hat business for children and adults.

Ellen says that when her mother-in-law knitted hats for her grandchildren, boys and girls, others in the family and their friends asked her to knit for them. "I felt that it was time to market special hats for kids that can be custom-made for the clothes they wear," says Ellen.

They formed a team, with Esther involved with the creative end — designing and knitting — and Ellen handling the marketing and sales. As the daughter of parents who operate a high profile women's wear boutique in Montreal, Ellen knows the fashion business from the ground up. She says that from her travels around the world with her parents, she learned to appreciate one-of-a-kind accessories and honed her entrepreneurial skills.

Unusual

After moving to Toronto, she married Todd Halpern, who is in the wine importing business with his father Harold. Ellen headed a retail operation and presently is the national sales manager for an Italian-based company which imports and distributes lines such as Giorgio Armani.

"With a 2 year old at home," says Ellen, who is expecting a second child, "I appreciated clothing that has both fashion and function and Esther's hats meet every criteria. They are head-turners and people exclaim, 'Wow, where did you get that beautiful hat?' That's Esther's creativity and genius."

The unusual knit hats are trimmed with silk and other fabric flowers, tulle and ribbon. Some of the children's hats have scenes from children's books such as Little Red Riding Hood and Little Miss Muffet. As well, there are fishing scenes, clowns and just about anything your imagination conjures up.

Recently, Fancy Me added hats for adults. "They fell in love with them," says Ellen, "and they are making quite a fashion statement in Toronto. And now we are getting requests from other cities."

Although they can make a hat in just about any color to match or contrast an outfit, the winter colors most in demand have been; for boys — navy, green and blue; for girls — hot pink, white and red; and for women — black, white and green.

"There has been such an overwhelming demand for our hats," says Esther, "that we are preparing a spring and summer line as well.

The prices for Fancy Me hats are $35 and up for children and $50 and up for adults.

Fancy Me hats are available at boutiques in the Yorkville area or you can call (416) 484-8752 or (416) 771-8205.

Ellen Halpern, along with her daughter Hailey, model two of their hats.

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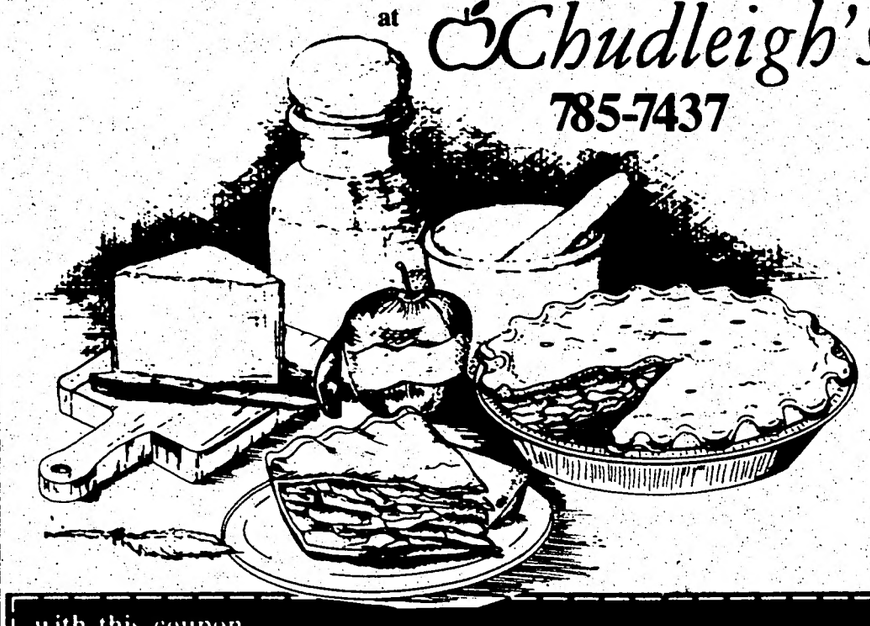

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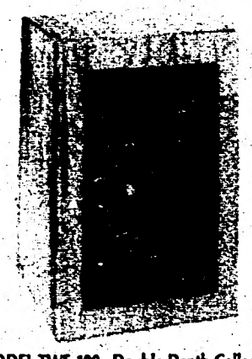

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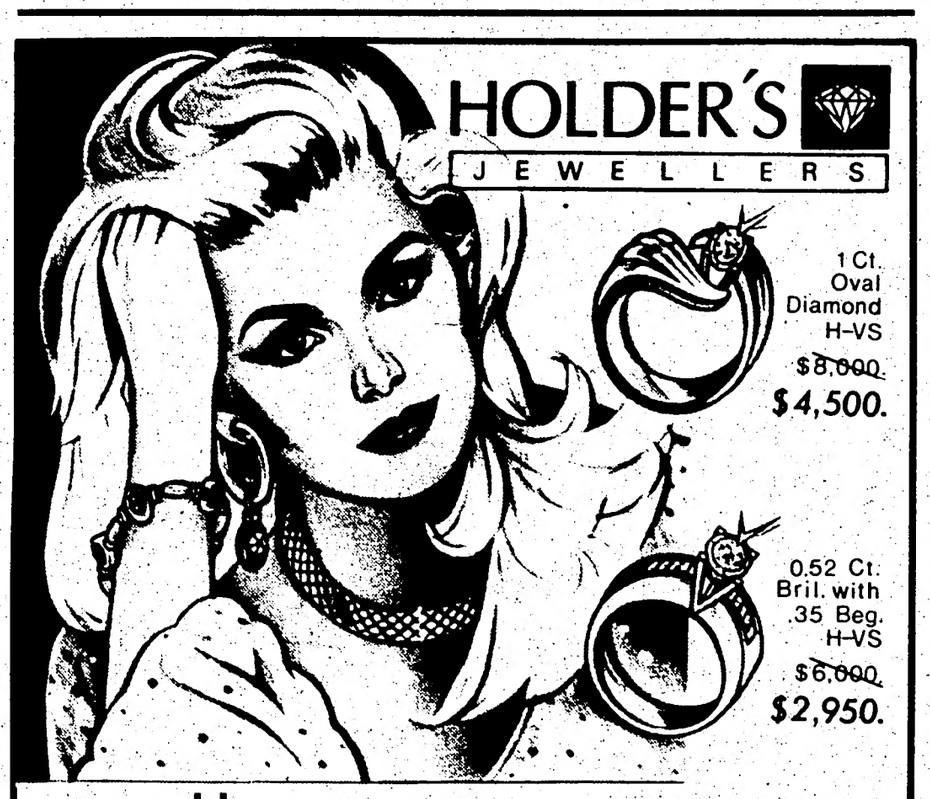

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From a kid's point of view

Give the gift of music

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN

On the list of things most 7-year-olds think they are too old to enjoy, children's performers rank just after *Sesame Street*.

The many times I have caught my daughter Jennifer watching *Sesame Street* or *The Elephant Show* out of the corner of her eye, she'd quickly say she was just watching to see if it was appropriate for her younger sister or brother. Needless to say, I was quite pleased and surprised when she listened to Jack Grunsky's new tape, *Waves of Wonder*, on the BMC Kidz Canada label, and declared "This guy's not bad. He must not be a children's singer."

The first song, *Wave After Wave*, was an immediate hit, so it helped pave the way for the rest of the tape. When I saw that she was tapping her feet to the music after about four songs, I knew she approved.

"I think what I like about him is that he uses all kinds of instruments instead of just his voice and a guitar. I have to listen hard to guess what instrument he's playing next," Jennifer said.

Singer Jack Grunsky

Indeed he does make use of an assortment of instruments including the bass, drums, accordian, the Brazilian berimbau, the African mbira and the Guyanese dundun, all which add atmosphere to his multinational songs. "I don't think they have lessons for those three around here," Jennifer pointed out.

She was also intrigued by *Siyanibingelela*, an African song which takes us on a world's tour of the simple word hello. "I know bonjour and I know shalom but I never really thought that hello could be said in so many other different ways. Maybe I could meet some of those kids some day and they could teach me some more words," she said.

Reading a little bit about Jack Grunsky, I could see that the message Jennifer obtained from that one song is the message he wants to put across in all his music, that we should all aim to bridge cultures and stress commonalities.

When she listened to *Street Beat* which features simple dancing games of children around the world from Africa to Austria to Alabama and wanted to know "how I can learn how to beat tin cans that way and tap my feet to make that noise" I knew that he had opened the door, at least in our home, to a thirst of knowledge about different cultures.

Of course there are the kind of sing-after-me songs such as *Polly the Parrot*, that Jennifer declared just a little bit babyish, but my 5-year-old, Sarah, thought it was "pretty cool." I knew she liked the tape when I heard her humming *One Special Toy*, the next morning.

Game gets a thumbs up

By YAEL BEN-DAT

One day I visited the Magoos. Suddenly, a kumquat jumped out and scared the gorgonzolas out of me. I leapt so high, I outgrew the giraffe and Mrs. Magoo's miniskirt.

This is just part of the fun that is experienced while playing the new board game Jabberwocky.

It is a game based on creativity and imagination, and it can be enjoyed by people from the age of 10 to 110. It is great for the whole family, and the maximum number of players is...200.

One topic is chosen (the buzz word), and each player is given a card. All of the cards have a joker on them except one. This "wild card" has three uncommon words.

Everyone has to write a wacky story about the topic that was chosen. The person with the wild card has to include one of the unusual words in his or her story. It is important to use wierd and wonderful words and plenty of imagination to fool opponents into thinking you have the card--unless you do.

Race against the sand clock to get your "unique" story written down. Make sure no one knows who has the wild card. And don't forget, the person with the shortest hair goes first.

This game is a box full of fun and laughter. It really lets your imagination run WILD.

Yael Ben-Dat is 13 years old and a Grade 8 student at Associated Hebrew School. She still isn't sure what gorgonzola is.

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Bring historic photos to life

By JOSEPH SERGE

Do you have old eight-millimetre home movies sitting in your attic collecting dust? A perfect Chanukah gift might be to transfer those old never-watched films into beautiful professional-packaged family-tree heritage videos.

While many companies transfer old tape into video form, Ron Rimer Productions Inc. does a lot more. Ron Rimer offers a 10 to 20 minute professional-quality montage of old movies and photographs set to beautiful music and voice-overs.

"The concept is simple," said Rimer. "It's our creative packaging that makes it interesting."

Rimer has worked in broadcast productions for 10 years and has worked with many high-profile corporations. He's produced visual openings for the 1992 *CTV Olympics*, CFTO's *Eye on Toronto*, *Fifth Estate*, sports shows and theatrical trailers for Famous Players and Cineplex Odeon.

Now Rimer is using his expertise to offer families an historic, visual overview of their history. After doing heritage tapes for his friends and family, Rimer said the response was overwhelming and he decided to offer this service to the general public.

Simply, heritage videos are visual photo albums, but because of his corporate work, Rimer has access to all the high-tech equipment and special effects to transfer old photos and film into something quite extraordinary.

For example old black and white footage can be given an old-fashioned sepia tint. Old film can be modified and certain scenes can be zoomed into. Other effects include page-turning which gives the video a family-album appeal. "It's quite unique," Rimer said. "It's not what you'd find in wedding and bar mitzvah videos. It's a moving, dynamic tribute to the people in your family."

Rimer said a heritage video can appeal to people of all generations, from young people interested in their ancestry to older people who've never seen their history packaged together. Rimer said the film can focus on the individuals who've helped shape family history and the people around them.

The heritage video is a visual time capsule. It can mix pictures from Russia, or wherever the family originated from, with meaningful scenes from the past and present. Ron Rimer Productions can superimpose childhood scenes of the grandparents with footage of present-day grandchildren, giving the video a timeless quality. Film can also be added on as the kids get older.

Meaningful music which the customer relates to is added to the video. Sometimes a bit of voice-over can be added over certain scenes, for example the grandfather describing a scene in Poland, but narration is used sparingly. "It's very well paced and people are so moved, they're crying [after watching it]," Rimer said.

If you have 10-15 hours of film, Ron Rimer Productions helps you select the prefect scenes by time-coding the initial tapes, allowing you to choose the right frames for the montage.

Rimer, 42, started producing broadcast graphics 10 years ago and has worked for Omnibus Computer Graphics, Image group and others. He is still involved in this field and is currently working on two TV series for major networks.

Ron Rimer Productions is planning to introduce an editing workshop shortly whereby customers can be taught to edit their own film.

The price for a heritage video montage varies with each project but ranges from $1,000 to $10,000. For more information call Ron Rimer Productions at 230-4363.

Family-tree heritage videos make perfect Chanukah gifts.

Pedigree Perfection provides perfect pet present

By RACHEL ALKALLAY

Pedigree Perfection's Teddy Bear models a snazzy sweater as part of the dog clothing company's current line.

It was pouring rain outside, and Teddy Bear didn't have a thing to wear!

What to do except to create a raincoat, size 10, in bright red nylon, says Irving Solomon of Pedigree Perfection, after wife and co-owner Phyllis complained that the toy poodle refused to go out in the driving rain.

With that was born Pet Threads — snazzy clothing for the canine with the caring owner. And Paw-tectors — patent-pending foorwear designed and molded to the dog's paw.

And most importantly, Pepe was created. The non-descript dog with hearts in his eyes, is featured in Pedigree Perfection's display, and forms the cornerstone of the company's marketing strategy.

The Pepe display, on which each snowsuit, raincoat, and jogging suit is packed, is designed to catch the consumer's eye as he walks through the pet shop. Previously, shoddily-made clothing was wrapped in plastic and hidden away on shelves, inaccessible to consumers, who need to be educated to their pooch's sartorial needs, says Solomon.

"Quality, design, fit and practicality are Pedigree Perfection's trademarks," says Solomon, who has all garments and Paw-tectors tested out for comfort and wearability on various dog breeds. Paw-tectors in particular are essential for dogs in Canada's climate. Many household canines are imported breeds, whose paws are unused to tramping through slush, dealing with the harsh chemicals used in winter and the freezing cold and concrete-burning heat of summer. The velcro-closure footwear protects against the elements and the stocking-like design ensures freedom for the delicate paw.

Solomon says that veterinarians are in accord with the concept of Paw-tectors — they see too many cases of paws damaged by shards of ice or burned by harsh chemicals.

Coupled with a Weathermaster snow or rainsuit, the family canine can comfortably and happily go out in any weather. And make a fashion statement at the same time.

The same quality fabrics used for human clothing are used for dog fashions. Silk and tartan capes, patterned knits, colorful sweaters and tops designed with pouches to carry money and fasteners to carry newspapers (for the dog who shops for his owner) — these ensure that canines from conservative to wild temperaments can be suitably attired. Each item of apparel has a slit for the leash, and appropriate openings for the tail, earholes and velcro closures for adjustability.

"The United Nations is in the midst of passing a resolution forbidding dogs to go naked," deadpans Solomon, whose previous career in the fashion jewelry business prepared him for the creativity needed when providing sweaters, capes and coats for the canine set.

Items are available in 13 sizes ranging from 6 to 30 — or, chihuahua to Great Dane fit. Paw-tectors come in five sizes — and all dogs need them at one time or another. The company has received requests for samples from Susan Butcher, winner of the Iditerod sledding race. She had used over 300 chamois cloths to protect her husky team's paws during the race.

Pedigree Perfection's apparel for dogs is available through distributors Canada-wide. The company can be reached at 5623 Briand, Montreal, Quebec H4E 3J7, telephone (514) 485-7850.

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HOLIDAY GIFTS

Toys offer old-fashioned ingenuity

By CYNTHIA GASNER

If you want to get your kids away from the TV and back to old-fashioned ingenuity, here are some toys for parents and grandparents looking for Chanukah gifts to consider.

Here are some durable toys that you won't tire of looking at and your children or grandchildren will not tire of playing with.

They are from the new line of educational and challenging toys from the Grand River Toy Company. Forget the batteries, colored plastics and TV characters. These are classic toys that kept generations of kids happy and creative.

These are wooden toys crafted from beautiful hardwoods rarely seen in North America. "All the woods are grown in well-managed forests ensuring they will be available for future generations. No rain forest products are ever used," says Sandy Callahan, who founded the company with her husband Tom Callahan three years ago.

It all began when Tom, an amateur woodworker, made blocks for their boys. A number of people inquired where they were made. When Tom was in Argentina on business, he saw beautiful woods and decided to get the blocks made there. That was the beginning. They soon added puzzles, wheelbarrows and cradles, all made to their specifications. And they added a tool box made in Argentina.

An all-Canadian company, Grand River Toy Company decided to begin producing products here in Canada. As a result, some old items and several new ones are now made right here from Canadian hardwoods by local artisans.

Their mail-order business continued to grow and this year, they added "the Wonders of Nature" designed for slightly older children from 6 to 12 years old. There are two-way microscopes, a fossil fish collection that lived 90 million years ago, mineral collections, handmade dolls, zithers and large environmental floor puzzles.

"We carry natural products," says Sandy. "We try to keep it as environmentally sound as possible — with a minimum of packaging, recycled materials, non-toxic paints and no finishes on the wood. We recommend that a small amount of begetable oil be rubbed into the wood, which gives it a wonderful look."

She adds that the products are so well constructed that they are meant to be handed down through the generation — they can be heirlooms, and all toys come fully assembled.

"Within these three years we have expanded and now advertise and sell in the United States. The free 12-page catalogue is in Canadian dollars which makes it very attractive to Americans who equate quality with Canadian products."

For a free catalogue call toll-free 1-800-567-5600. In the Toronto area call (416) 469-1946.

This zither is a musical instrument made by a Canadian craftsman.

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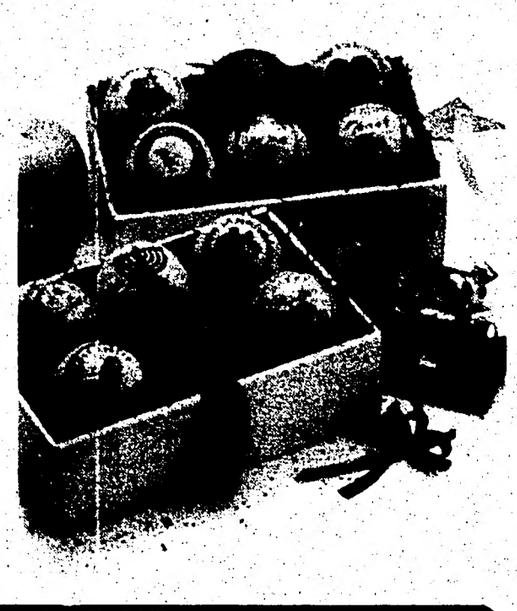

By DOROTHY LICHTBLAU

If you've rung out of gift-giving ideas there is a company in Florida that has a suggestion for you.

How about colorful, fragrant, fresh and healthy fruit from the Sunshine State, by Mail Boxes Etc?

The Colodneys, a husband-and-wife team, started the business in 1987 and today they ship a variety of citrus fruits all over North America and Europe. The company provides "show-quality fruit" which is carefully packed and guaranteed to arrive in perfect condition, or your money is refunded.

Depending on the season, different types of oranges and grapefruit are available. Navel, temple or tangello oranges and red, pink or yellow grapefruit are a few of the choices offered.

For the holidays, the Colodneys have created the Harvest Jubilee, a package of specially selected apples, oranges, grapefruit and pears. In January, honeybell oranges will be in season. This fruit is so sweet and juicy, "we usually insert a bib at the top of the box," adds Colodney.

The cartons of fruit are parcelled in a number of sizes ranging from one quarter bushel to one and a half bushels. You can choose a carton of one type of fruit or a mixture of grapefruit and oranges. Prices are not unreasonable and include shipping. For example, one quarter bushel is priced at $20.95, a half bushel costs $27.95 and one bushel is $39.95.

For a brochure and order form write to Mail Boxes Etc. at 1313 South Military Trail, Deerfield Beach, Fla. 33442.

Chanukah orders should be placed by Dec. 11. For quicker delivery you can phone the Colodneys at 305-360-7225 and give them a credit card number or FAX them at 305-9994. Colodney says he will deduct the cost of an average call from the shipping price.

During December trucks leave for Canada a couple of times a week to deliver cartons directly to Canada Post, from where they are sent to local addresses.

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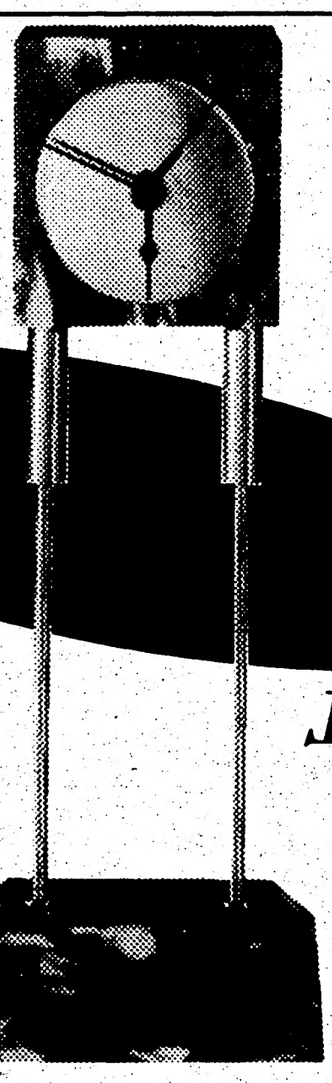

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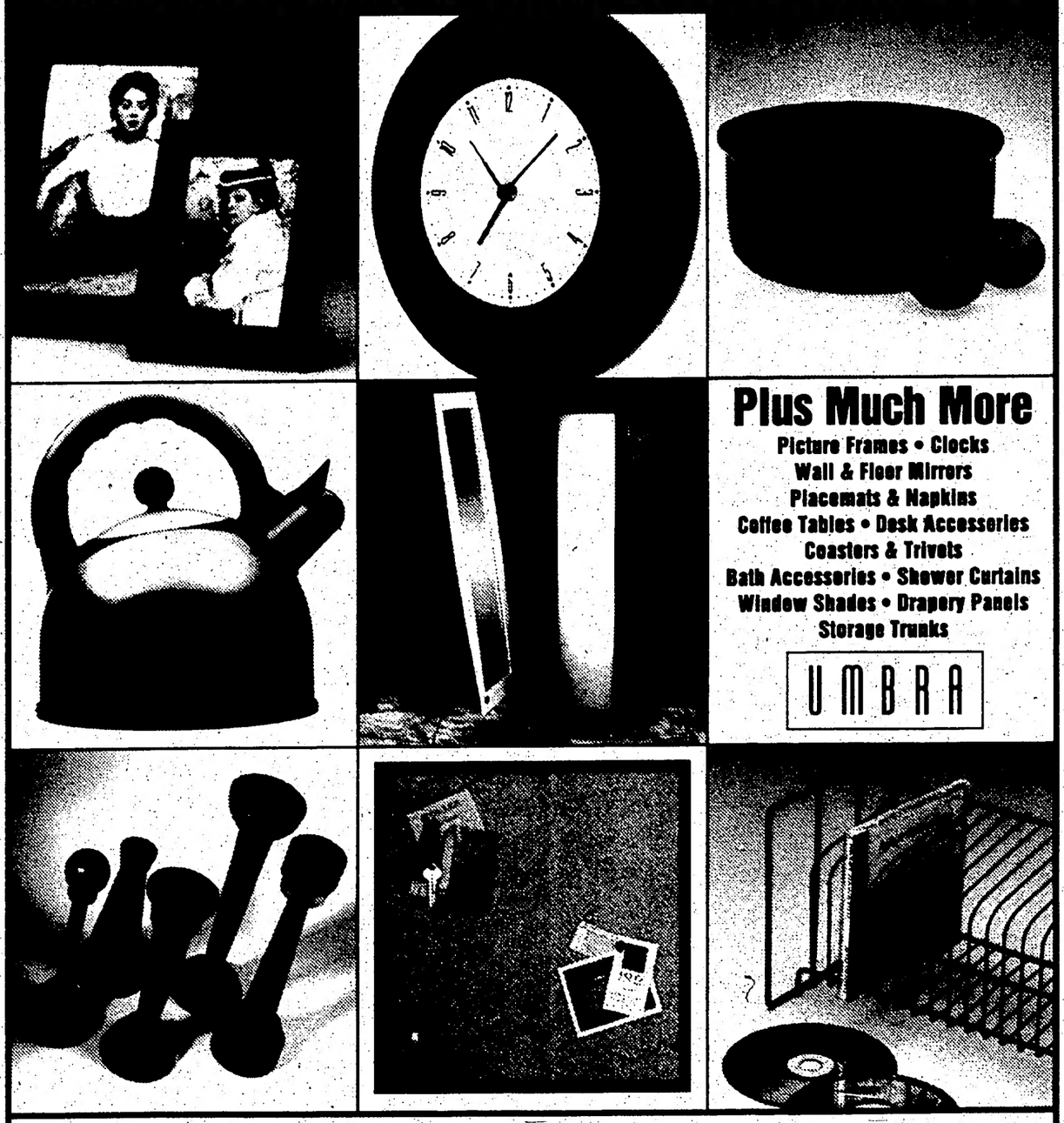

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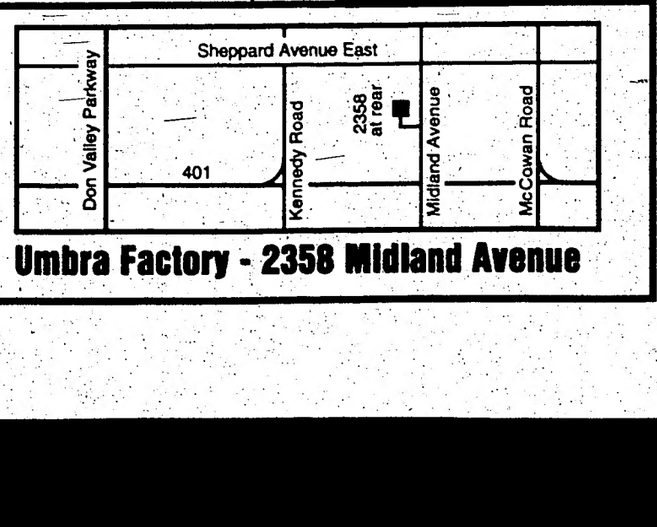

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9:00 am *Registration & Coffee*

9:30 am - Opening Keynote Address
Our Personal Responsibility For A Jewish Future
-- Dr. Deborah E. Lipstadt --

10:45 am *Morning Workshops: Choose One*

A. **The University Years:** Keeping Our Kids Connected
Presenter: **Susan Jackson**
Director, Community Services & Youth Activities, Canadian Jewish Congress, Ontario Region
or

B. **Re-energizing Your Organization:** Incorporating The Jewish Vision
Presenter: **Dr. Elaine M. Todres**
Deputy Minister, Ontario Ministry of Culture & Communications
or

C. **The Value Of Jewish Values:** Formal & Informal Education For Our Children And Ourselves
Presenter: **Rabbi Irwin E. Witty**
Director, Board of Jewish Education

12:30 pm - Luncheon Program
Celebrating Volunteers: Women Of Excellence
The Program will include a musical presentation

2:15 pm *Afternoon Workshops: Choose One*

A. **The Great Balancing Act:** Family, Career And You
Presenter: **Rosie Parnass**
Manager, Counselling Services, University of Toronto's Career Centre
Or

B. **Welcome To Toronto:** Integration Then And Now
Moderator: **Susan Davis**
National Director, Jewish Immigrant Aid Services
Panel:
Biba Benquesus **Chahine Levine**
Aliza Dvir **Maxine Stuhler**
Kati Harari **Inna Talas**
or

C. **The Volunteer Crisis:** Are We In Sync With Today's Woman?
Presenter: **Francie Storm**
Volunteer Management Consultant
President, Jewish Family & Child Service
or

D. **The Sandwich Generation:** A Closer Look At All The Layers
Presenter: **Dr. Rheta Rosen**
Professor of Sociology, Ryerson Polytechnical Institute
Presenter: **Dr. Ben Schlesinger**
Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto

> **Sunday afternoon program will conclude at 3:45 pm**

7:30 pm Keynote Address
Yesterday, Today & Tomorrow:
Jewish Women As A Force For Change
-- Dr. Deborah E. Lipstadt --

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1993

8:45 am *Registration & Coffee*
9:15 am *Morning Workshops I : Choose One*

A. **Written Out Of History:** Post-Biblical Jewish Women - A Study Session
Presenter: **Dr. Shoshana Zoity**
Educational Historian
or

B. **Positive Problem Solving:** Techniques For Successful Negotiation
Presenter: **Resa S. Eisen**
Conflict Resolution Therapist
or

C. **Raising A Feminist Family:** Striving Towards Equality
Presenter: **Dr. Paula J. Caplan**
Professor of Applied Psychology, OISE, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Lecturer in Women's Studies, University of Toronto
Presenter: **Zita Gardner**
Director, The Leo Baeck Day School
Presenter: **Dr. Rachel Schlesinger**
Associate Professor, Division of Social Science, York University

11:15 am *Morning Workshops II : Choose One*

A. **Woman To Woman:** Exploring The Israeli/Canadian Connection
Presenter: **Shira Herzog**
National Vice-Chairman, Canada-Israel Committee
or

B. **Communicate with Confidence:** Projecting A Positive Self-Image
Presenter: **Carol Seidman**
Assistant Dean, Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto
or

C. **Putting Words into Action:** Effecting Social And Political Change
Presenter: **Bernie M. Farber**
Acting National Director, Community Relations, Canadian Jewish Congress
Presenter: **Arlene Perly Rae**
Activist on Women's Issues

1:00 pm - Luncheon Program
What Will They Say About Us: Writing Our Own History Now
-- Dr. Deborah E. Lipstadt --
The Festival will close with a musical presentation

> **Monday afternoon program will conclude at 3:00 pm**
> **J.W.F. Affiliate displays will be on view throughout the Festival**

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"We are at a moment of radical change in the Jewish community that demands both personal and policy responses," according to Deborah Lipstadt, the keynote speaker for The Jewish Women's Festival.

Dr. Lipstadt is Professor of Modern Jewish Studies at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. She has spoken throughout the world on topics relating to Jewish Identity and Continuity, Women and Judaism and the Holocaust. She has given public lectures in the former Soviet Union and consulted to the German government on methods of teaching Jewish history and the Holocaust.

In November of 1992, Dr. Lipstadt was the first woman to have the honour of presenting the keynote address at the opening of the General Assembly of the Council of Jewish Federations.

Dr. Lipstadt is presently a historical consultant to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. She will soon be publishing her newest book Denying the Holocaust: The Growing Assault on Truth and Memory.

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Organizations and People

Toronto restaurateur rejects links to neighbor Zundel

By RON CSILLAG

TORONTO —

A Toronto restaurateur says his business is suffering because of rumors linking him to pro-Nazi publisher Ernst Zundel.

Austin Etches, owner of Episode, a Carlton Street bar and restaurant, insists Zundel is not his business partner and is not related to him.

Etches, 34, says his restaurant has been the target of vandals who have damaged a fence and torn down his outdoor menu. Passersby have spat on his windows, he adds.

On one occasion, Klanbusters, a local anti-racist organization, plastered the restaurant's washrooms with stickers, Etches says.

The rumors stem from the fact that Episode is just down the street from Zundel's residence. Compounding the problem is that Etches lives next door to Zundel.

Etches lives at 208 Carlton St., while the Metro telephone directory lists Zundel's address as 206 Carlton. The two residences share a common alley leading to the main entrances.

"People see us coming out of the alley and assume we're related or friends. We're just neighbors. I don't bother him and he doesn't bother me," Etches told *The CJN*.

What's more, the restaurant's landlord also owns the building in which Zundel lives, and Zundel parks his car behind the eatery, Etches points out.

Episode opened three months ago after Etches sunk his life savings into renovations. He had been a waiter at a nearby Italian restaurant.

All of a sudden, some of his former clients, many of them Jewish, began questioning Etches' relationship with Zundel, he recalls.

"A very prominent Jewish businessman pulled me aside and asked me if I was Zundel's son. I was flabbergasted. I said, 'Pardon me?' " Etches remembers.

"My parents were born in England and my forefathers died fighting the Nazis."

Etches says "quite a few" of his former clients, who "know me pretty well" now avoid his restaurant.

"The odd person still stops me and asks [about his relationship with Zundel]. My professional reputation is at stake."

Etches points out that five or 10 extra diners a day "can make or break" his restaurant, which can seat 30 people indoors.

Austin Etches outside his Carlton Street restaurant. [Ron Csillag photo]

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Political parties' role changes

By CAROLYN BLACKMAN

TORONTO —

A gradual shift in Israel's political-social system means that the role of its political parties has shrunk says the international president of New Israel Fund (NIF).

"With this shift into modern society, Israelis do not rely on political parties for such things as improvement of local conditions, equality for all religious denominations or equality for women. Public interest groups have begun to grow and these groups do the fighting for Israeli citizens," Mordechai Bar-On told a recent breakfast meeting of Beth Tikvah Brotherhood.

He said that traditionally, the government never supported these interest groups but that NIF, a public foundation dedicated to strengthening democracy and advancing social justice and pluralism in Israel, donates a lot of money towards them. NIF provides financial support, technical assistance and training to over 150 voluntary organizations working in the areas of civil rights and civil liberties, religious pluralism and tolerance, the status of women, Jewish-Arab co-existence and bridging social and economic gaps.

Among recent achievements of NIF is the enactment of the Equal Opportunity in Employment Law which promotes legal equality for women; permission for women to serve on municipal religious councils; recognition by the Supreme Court of the right of Reform, Conservative and Reconstructionist converts to Judaism to be allowed to enter Israel as Jews under the Law of Return and the enactment of comprehensive legislation dealing with child abuse.

Bar-On cited three projects created by NIF in order to sustain the long-term growth of Israel's public interest sector and to help expand the ranks of its communal, legal and national leadership. SHATIL, support project for voluntary organizations provides technical assistance and organizational skills to grassroots organizations throughout Israel. Israel-U.S. Civil Liberties Law Program trains lawyers in human rights and civil liberties and places them with Israeli civil rights organizations. The Leadership Fellows Program seeks to cultivate a new generation of leaders in Israel by providing a stipend to those who demonstrate leadership potential and assigning them to those areas to which they are personally dedicated within both the Jewish and Arab sectors.

NIF is one of the few organizations, that despite the economic times, has been able to increase its budget every year. "NIF allows citizens to help themselves and build Israeli society into the society of tomorrow," he said.

UN Resolution 242 re-examined

By FRANCES KRAFT

TORONTO —

A retrospective look at UN Security Council Resolution 242 on the occasion of its 25th anniversary reaffirmed its importance as a framework for Arab-Israeli peace, despite its intentional ambiguities.

A panel of three experts discussed the resolution recently at Adath Israel Congregation: Vernon Turner, former Canadian ambassador to Israel and member of the Canadian UN delegation in 1967; Edward Morgan, professor of international law, University of Toronto; and Gabriel Ben-Dor, professor of political science, Haifa University, who is a visiting professor at York University. The panel was moderated by Dr. David Goldberg of the Foundation for Middle East Studies.

"What does Resolution 242 resolve?" asked Morgan. "It resolves nothing, but it's a fantastic educational tool."

The resolution "remains the framework upon which a just and lasting peace is most likely to be built," said Goldberg. Constructive ambiguity was built in to ensure its passing, he explained.

Resolution 242 was the result of complex negotiations during the months following the Six-Day War, in which virtually every member of the security council had a hand, recalled Turner. "It still represents the silver lining in whatever clouds gather from time to time over the peace process," he said.

Ben-Dor referred to 242 as a "Cinderella" which faced much rejection before it was finally adopted. "It didn't bring them to the table, but I doubt if they would have got to the table if not for 242. As long as we have a 242, there is hope for the future."

The panel discussion was co-sponsored by B'nai Brith Canada, Canadian Jewish Congress Ontario region, Canadian Zionist Federation, Jewish Federation of Greater Toronto and United Israel Appeal.

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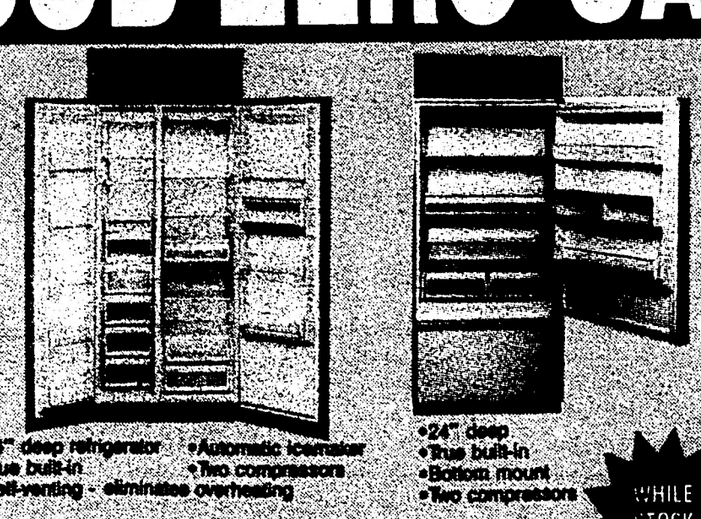
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Organizations and People

London Kristallnacht ceremony marred by anti-Semitic attack

By RON CSILLAG and WENDOLYN KAUFFMAN

LONDON —
An otherwise solemn ceremony here last month marking the 54th anniversary of Kristallnacht was marred by an anti-Semitic incident.

University of Western Ontario students gathered on campus to hold the ceremony marking the night in Germany in 1938 that was the beginning of the end for European Jewry.

Philosophy student Jay Papernick ended proceedings at the fifth annual ceremony by shattering a giant wall of glass emblazoned with a red swastika as about 100 university and Jewish day school students looked on.

Suddenly, a man later identified as the son of a leader of a pro-Nazi group in London, allegedly threw hot coffee on Papernick while shouting, "Lies, lies, lies! Sieg heil! Sieg heil!"

Students told the man to sit down but when he continued his outburst, campus security guards escorted him from the area, according to witness Brenda Enchin.

Enchin told *The CJN* the man said students had no right to smash his symbol.

After the man was gone, chants of "Never again" rose from the students, Enchin added.

The man was later identified as David Weiche, of nearby Hyde Park. Weiche is the son of Martin Weiche, a one-time leader of the London chapter of the National Socialist Party of Canada.

The university later issued a trespass order barring Weiche from entering the campus again. Jerry Enchin, director of the London Jewish Federation, told *The CJN.*

Commenting later, Papernick, who was not injured, told *The CJN* the incident may have been "a blessing in disguise."

"The majority of the people attending the ceremony had never witnessed anti-Semitism up close. This naivete among university students is probably one of our largest problems within the Jewish campus community," he said.

"I hope this opens their eyes. Anti-Semitism is a reality."

As a reaction to the incident, a panel of representatives from London's multicultural communities was formed to counteract racism.

The panel consists of Terry Galinsky, a member of the Coalition of Western Jewish Students; Tom Seiss, UWO director of student services; London city councillor Dianne Hasket, Rev. Jim Izawa, a local clergyman; Leela Madhava Rau, the university's race relations officer; and Lorne Shipman of the Ontario Race Relations Directorate (OARS).

Shipman said students can combat campus racism by "building on" all available institutions and by banding together with other universities, civic organizations and race relations groups.

He called on Western students to use the incident as "a step forward" in the battle against racism.

Educator calls for racism education to begin as early as possible

By JACK KOHANE

TORONTO —
Fighting racism is everyone's business, but where does one start? According to Hari Lalla, curriculum co-ordinator for race relations and multiculturalism for the Toronto Board of Education, one must begin at the beginning — with our young people.

"It is known that many of our personality traits and attitudes are formed by the time we are two years of age," says Lalla. "It is incumbent upon us then, to promote positive racial perceptions as soon as possible; otherwise, it becomes a daunting task to un-learn misconceptions and prejudices."

Myra Novogrodsky

In Lalla's experience, the numbers of racial "incidents" in our school system have steadily increased in recent years. Teachers and principals are filing reports concerning racially-motivated occurrences with greater frequency than ever before.

Racism, sexism, and a host of other sinister "isms" are expressed in various forms: from banter, jokes, slurs, taunts, graffiti, stereotyping, threats, or vicious insults. Acts of physical violence are also becoming alarmingly common in our schoolyards and playgrounds.

Lalla's prescription for combatting racism stems from a 1979 report, published by the Toronto Board of Education, titled *Final Report of the Sub-Committee on Race Relations.* This constituted a comprehensive study on the general state of race relations within our schools, how incidents were to be identified and reported, a critical appraisal procedure for evaluation of curriculum materials for racial bias, and means to fostering improved understanding and sensitivity between diverse cultures.

In all, the report put forth 119 recommendations, many of which have since been integrated into the educational curricula. The study concluded with a clear statement of zero-tolerance against any expressions of racial/ethnic bias.

As Lalla sees it, teachers, who are on the front line of this debate, must learn to recognize when an unequivocal racial incident has occurred.

"It is a matter of training. The majority of our educators were never instructed in the ways racism is manifested, nor how to deal with the perpetrators."

One of the ways this is now being addressed is through workshops. Teachers and community leaders are invited by Lalla's department to participate in group sessions designed to bring about heightened awareness of race and ethnic relations; to equip them with the skills necessary to relate knowledgeably and sensitively with people of different religious and cultural origins.

A booklet titled *Handling Racial Incidents*, is also being distributed throughout the school system, to inform staffs about dealing effectively with racist actions.

"One of our deepest concerns at present is the rise of anti-Semitism, both inside and outside the classroom," says Lalla. "It is particularly distressing to witness, in the light of history, but we are intensifying our efforts to counteract this phenomenon."

An essential part of this approach has been in a series of seminars and discussions presented by the Equity Studies Centre at the Toronto Board of Education. A report meeting, hosted by Myra Novogrodsky, co-ordinator of women's and labor studies (on leave) at the centre, highlighted the issue of anti-Semitism to a gathering of educators.

"There are a variety of methods to teach our young people about what anti-Semitism really is, how it is exhibited, and how it can be persuasively counteracted," she said.

"Teachers may be constrained by the amount of time they devote to this subject. Many may spare only one 50-minute period; others could allot several periods using a more gradual progression of open discussions. In any case, there are plenty of resources we can make available to ensure this exercise is pertinent and useful."

Novogrodsky explained the process she utilizes in her own classrooms. Through questions and answers she derives what students perceive as a "typical" stereotype of Jewish people. These are listed for all to see and analyse. One by one, she refutes each negative image by citing statistics, referring to historical data, and through presentation of a slide show depicting anti-Semitic propaganda over the last century.

"Every stereotype is about one percent fact wrapped in 99 percent myths and lies. Such myths are long-lived and some gain strength and increased acceptance if remained unchallenged. The most persistent fantasy about Jews seems to be their wealth."

In fact, according to Novogrodsky, about 17 percent of Canada's Jewish population now lives at or below the poverty level, approximating the same rate for society generally.

Lalla concludes that we are living in very uncertain times. "Neo-Nazis and other extreme racist groups, which prey on those who look upon their personal situation and the future with fear, are on the rise in popularity. We must enlighten our youngsters, as well as those who are entrusted with their education, to this antisocial scourge. I am an eternal optimist and know that this war against racism will eventually win out. These series of lectures in our Holocaust evening studies sessions will go a long way to achieving that end."

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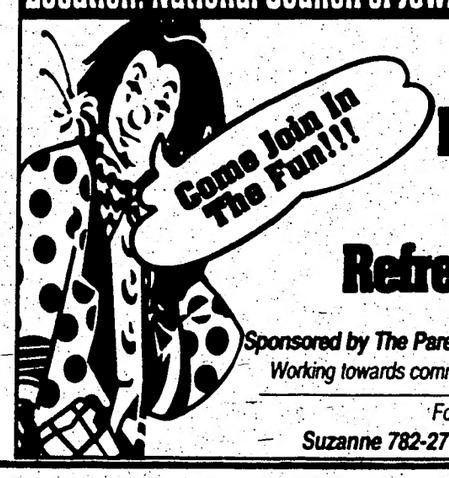

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Organizations and People

Constitutional referendum's gone but is not forgotten

By MIRIAM SOBEL

OTTAWA —

Probably no topic in Canadian politics has disappeared from public debate as quickly, as fully, as the referendum debate.

But the issues have not gone away, warned panel members at a forum called After the Referendum, one of the events in Ottawa's annual Jewish literary festival held at the end of November.

Jason Moscovitz, CBC parliamentary radio correspondent, moderated the discussion which featured Sheila Finestone, Liberal MP for Montreal's Westmount riding; Rabbi Reuven Bulka, rabbi of Machzekei Hadas Congregation and an active Yes campaigner; and Montreal lawyer Max Bernard, who chaired the Canadian Jewish Congress Yes committee.

Though the public and politicians want to put the unity debate behind us, said Moscovitz in his opening remarks, the next meeting with the issues is not far off.

"This whole book is going to be reopened very soon," Moscovitz maintained, referring to the federal and Quebec provincial elections which will be held within the next 18 months.

Unfortunately, he said, the wounds opened during the referendum debate will not have time to heal before then.

The separatist movement in Quebec is deeply rooted and will not disappear, he added.

Bernard said the constitutional debate raised issues that require resolution.

"Canadians have rejected the solutions, but they haven't rejected the need for solutions," he said.

The problem with the constitutional reforms, he added, was that it forced people to vote for a package of solutions. If people disagreed with one part, they rejected the whole thing.

He proposed that Canadians tell politicians what they want, and urged them to include their concerns in the next election platform.

"We can do it one issue at a time. We do not have the constraints of having to put together a package that is all things to all people. We can pick and choose our issues," he said.

Asked later which issues topped his own list of concerns, Bernard said it was critical to resolve aboriginal issues, help francophones inside and outside Quebec maintain a French presence and promote multiculturalism.

Finestone, whose Westmount riding had the highest Yes vote in the country, said though people are tired of the constitutional debate, she believes the campaign showed how strongly people feel about the country.

"Whether you voted Yes or No, citizens spoke up for Canada in this campaign because of the tremendous quality of life they enjoy here," she said.

And she said issues raised during the debate, like justice for aboriginal Canadians, must be dealt with.

Though she is optimistic that Canadians can find solutions to social justice problems like poverty, Finestone is concerned about the negative stereotype Canadians apply to politicians. Her colleagues, she said, are decent, concerned citizens.

If Canadians continue to paint all politicians with the same "black brush," she said, few people will be willing to run for office, and our democracy will be in trouble.

Rabbi Bulka said although he knew many thoughtful people who voted No in the referendum, he was struck by the amount of anti-French, anti-West, anti-East feeling he encountered while campaigning.

"This is not politics; this is nastiness," he said.

He also thought the significant proportion of voters who said No because they didn't like Prime Minister Mulroney, was another symptom of mean-spiritedness.

"To sell a country down the river because you don't like one of its politicians is a destructive way of going about the democratic process," he said.

The task during the post-referendum period, he said, will be to build bridges between diverse communities in Canada.

Chanukah celebration planned for centre

TORONTO —

On Dec. 20, Toronto will celebrate Chanukah like never before. One of the most comprehensive Chanukah programs ever, called Chanukah Wonderland, will be held at the newly renovated Thronhill Square Shopping Centre.

Chanukah Wonderland is sponsored by JEWEL the Sisterhood of Chabad Lubavitch of Markham, a young and dynamic Jewish organization serving North East Toronto Jewry.

The program will feature a wide range of activities for children and adults alike. For the adults there will be 30 boutiques, including personalized gifts, kids' clothing, designer medical uniforms, educational toys, lots of accessories, jewelry, sterling silver and much more. For the children, there will be game booths, free magic and music shows every hour on the hour, lots of food, hot dogs, cotton candy, face painting, arts and crafts, clowns, carnival rides, prizes and much more.

A unique Jewish Expo will feature: Canada's largest indoor menorah, an exhibit on the Moshiach (G-d willing, a surprise visit too), Live Scribe, miniature Jewish World and an audio visual presentation.

Chanukah, the Festival of Lights, is a celebration of a great miracle — the victory of a small, beleaguered Jewish nation over its powerful oppressors. In lighting the menorah, we rejoice in the triumph of freedom over tyranny, good over evil, right over might, light over darkness. Chanukah is celebrated for eight days by Jews the world over, beginning this year on Dec. 20.

The program will conclude with a moving menorah candle-lighting ceremony that will take place outside the Thornhill Community Centre. A massive 12-foot Chanukah memorah, erected at the popular intersection of Bayview Avenue and John Street in front of the Thornhill Community Centre and the Markham Library, will be lit.

Also expected are prominent government officials and dignitaries. Chabad will be presenting a colorful program featuring a chazzan and choir, hot potato latkes and much more.

Admission is free and all proceeds will go to charity. The program will run from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m. with the lighting ceremony at 4:30 p.m.

For further information please call Goldie Plotkin at 886-0420.

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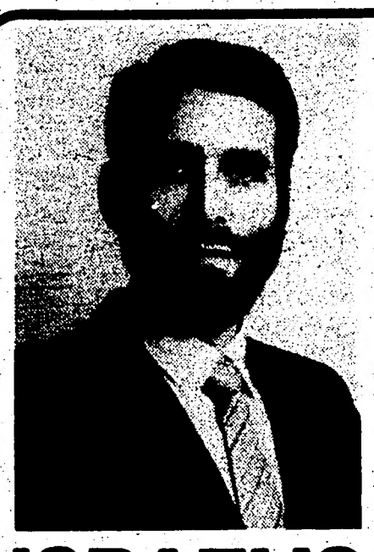
Toronto



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Organizations and People

Hamilton's Vine celebrates 90 years

By MOURA WOLPERT

HAMILTON —

It's many years since Helen Vine's York Street Delicatessen closed down, but they still talk of her cooking and oh, those fabulous knishes!

Helen turned 90 the other day and at Shalom Village, where she now lives, they threw a party for her one recent Sunday afternoon.

Like a queen she sat, a diminutive figure in the huge beribboned armchair, her feet dangling inches above the floor, as she listened with obvious delight to the tributes, the songs and the reminiscences.

And seeing her sparkling eyes and that wonderfully warm smile that has so endeared her to all, one would never have guessed that her life had been anything but easy, or imagine the courage and determination it had taken.

"Four-foot 10 in height and 6-foot 3 in personality and strength of character," was how Shalom Village administrator, Sheila Burman, described Vine.

Her life, as told by daughter Liliane Chacter of Toronto, and granddaughters, Yael and Miriam, began in 1902, in a small town in Poland that was alternately Russian, then German, then Polish again. She was the eldest of 10 and in 1921 she married Samuel Lieberman. In 1929, they moved to Paris with their young son.

Lieberman worked as a tailor and Helen in a sugar factory, but in the early '30s, together with Helen's sister and brother-in-law, they opened a kosher restaurant for students close to the Sorbonne university.

The 300-seat restaurant became a popular gathering place for Jewish students and they prospered. But then came the war; everything was lost and they fled to Lyon.

In 1944, her husband was deported to Auschwitz — "two months before freedom," Vine noted sadly.

Her eldest son was hiding by then and she was left alone with her 9-year-old second son, Simon, and Liliane, "9 months and 10 days old" the day her husband was taken.

In 1946, she rerturned to Paris with her children and opened a new restaurant, Chez Hélène.

There followed several years of hard work and struggling to provide for her family, then a couple of years in Israel, where her mother and several of her siblings had settled before the war, and finally she came to Hamilton to visit her uncle, Sam Katz, who had immigrated to Canada years earlier.

Here she met her second husband, Harry Vine, a widower with a grown family.

Helen Vine

"I was young, 50 years old, and I was not afraid to work," remarked Helen.

She persuaded her husband to open a deli restaurant on York Street, which they operated for 15 years until urban renewal forced them into retirement.

"It was hard work but I never regret it," remarked Vine.

Widowed for the second time, she moved to Shalom Village in early 1983, arriving there, as Burman put it, "like a little ball of fire."

Immediately, she set about giving cooking classes, and if it weren't for the arthritis that has gnarled her fingers and other aches and pains, and most recently, surgery to repair a knee broken in a fall, she'd still be cooking and instructing.

Indeed, she still does what she can. On the morning of her party she was in the kitchen at 7 o'clock, she said, "to make eggplant, because I have guests for breakfast, for lunch." And for the party, she'd also baked her famous apple cake.

Her two sons were there from Montreal, and so were step-children and grandchildren and step-grandchildren. To all, she fondly remarked, "I am their bubbie. My door was always open for all kids."

There were tributes from Nate Katz, who met his cousin "Chayele" in Paris in 1932 on his first trip to Europe; from former JCC executive director, Sam Brownstone; from Donna Padget, Shalom Village's first cook, who learned all about kosher cooking from Vine, and Burman and activities director, Susan Mills, performed a song they had written.

But it was Ab Waiters who provided the highlight. Almost 91, blind in one eye, bent and walking with difficulty, he was accompanied on the piano by Leah Levine as he belted out a lusty rendition of *L'Chaim, To Life* from *Fiddler on the Roof.*

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Property Reassessment in Metro Toronto

NOW WE HAVE A PLAN

On October 29, 1992, Metropolitan Toronto Council approved the Interim Metropolitan Toronto Reassessment Plan. It's the first major step towards gradually eliminating inequities that have existed for decades in our taxation system.

Who Is Affected By The Plan?

Anyone who owns or rents property, or operates a business in Metropolitan Toronto.

Why The Plan Was Modified

At Management Committee and Council meetings, the original Interim Reassessment Plan was modified in response to your comments and to reflect the realities of this difficult economic time.

This Council approved plan includes your input. Metro Government values the active participation of the many individuals and groups who took the time to express their views. Unfortunately, we cannot respond to each of you individually but we invite you to read the details of how the property tax system is changing.

IMPORTANT POINTS ABOUT THE INTERIM REASSESSMENT PLAN

- It takes effect January 1, 1993.
- Over half of all property owners will receive a decrease in property taxes.
- All property assessments are now based on 1988 values. This includes homes, businesses, apartment buildings and factories.
- The plan applies for five years only — 1993-1997. A new property tax system will be developed to take effect after that.
- There are protective limits to tax increases under the plan.
- Metro will ensure that tax decreases for landlords, due to reassessment, translate into rent decreases for tenants.
- If reassessment results in a property tax decrease or increase, it is calculated on your existing - 1992 - taxes.
- Reassessment is not a tax grab; the total amount of taxes collected in Metro will not increase. Reassessment redistributes taxes only.
- Annual municipal and school board budget increases are separate from the reassessment process.
- Every property owner will receive a Notice of Property Valuation (Assessment Notice) from the Ontario Ministry of Revenue.
- The Ontario Government is now considering Bill 94 — the legislation required to put the plan into effect.

THE MUNICIPALITY OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO · 1953

How does Reassessment affect your property?

The Interim Reassessment Plan provides different changes for different groups of taxpayers.
A majority of taxpayers are entitled to a decrease under the plan.

Residential Properties

(single family homes, duplexes, semi-detached properties, condominium units and private and non-profit co-operatives)

Decreases

•Those who are entitled to a decrease due to reassessment will receive approximately 50 per cent of that decrease, phased-in as follows: 40 per cent (approx.) in 1993, and 50 per cent (approx.) in 1994 and remaining at this level from 1994 through 1997.

•If a property is sold or there is a change in ownership, the phased-in tax decrease due to reassessment is unaffected.

Increases

•Tax increases due to reassessment will not exceed 10 per cent of existing (1992) taxes, phased-in as follows: 5 per cent (approx.) in 1993, and 10 per cent (approx.) in 1994 and remaining at this level from 1994 through 1997.

•The full increase in taxes due to reassessment occurs at the time of transfer of ownership (excluding change of ownership following the death of a spouse).

•If a property is currently undergoing sale or transfer of ownership, the new owner will pay property taxes on the full (updated) market value, unless transfer of ownership has been completed by December 31, 1992.

Apartments

Decreases

•Those who are entitled to a decrease will receive approximately 50 per cent of that decrease, phased-in as follows: 40 per cent (approx.) in 1993, and 50 per cent (approx.) in 1994 and remaining at this level from 1994 through 1997.

•If a property is sold or there is a change in ownership, the phased-in tax decrease due to reassessment is unaffected.

•The Government of Ontario Rent Control Act, 1992, ensures rent reductions due to reassessment.

Increases

•Tax increases due to reassessment will not exceed 10 per cent of existing (1992) taxes, phased-in as follows: 5 per cent (approx.) in 1993, and 10 per cent (approx.) in 1994 and remaining at this level from 1994 through 1997.

•If a property is sold or there is a change in ownership, the phased-in tax increase due to reassessment is unaffected.

Commercial Properties

Decreases

•Those who are entitled to a decrease will receive approximately 25 per cent of that decrease, phased-in as follows: 12 per cent (approx.) in 1993, 21 per cent (approx.) in 1994, and 25 per cent (approx.) in 1995 and remaining at this level from 1995 through 1997.

•If a property is sold or there is a change in ownership, the phased-in tax decrease due to reassessment is unaffected.

Increases

•Tax increases due to reassessment will not exceed 25 per cent of existing (1992) taxes, phased-in as follows: 10 per cent (approx.) in 1993, 20 per cent (approx.) in 1994, and 25 per cent (approx.) in 1995 and remaining at this level from 1995 through 1997.

•If a property is sold or there is a change in ownership, the phased-in tax increase due to reassessment is unaffected.

Industrial Properties

Decreases

•Those who are entitled to a decrease will receive approximately 40 per cent of that decrease, phased-in as follows: 30 per cent (approx.) in 1993, 36 per cent (approx.) in 1994, and 40 per cent (approx.) in 1995 and remaining at this level from 1995 through 1997.

•If a property is sold or there is a change in ownership, the phased-in tax decrease due to reassessment is unaffected.

Increases

•Tax increases due to reassessment will not exceed 25 per cent of existing (1992) taxes, phased-in as follows: 10 per cent (approx.) in 1993, 20 per cent (approx.) in 1994, and up to 25 per cent (approx.) in 1995 and remaining at this level from 1995 through 1997.

•If a property is sold or there is a change in ownership, the phased-in tax increase due to reassessment is unaffected.

Other Properties

•Vacant (undeveloped) land, railway rights-of-way, pipelines and properties making grants in-lieu-of taxes are subject to full tax decreases and increases.

A Few Words About Market Value Assessment

What is market value assessment? It's a property tax system used by more than 700 municipalities in Ontario. Your assessment is the most likely selling price between a willing buyer and a willing seller in an open market. It is not the actual sale price. Market value assessment is needed to ensure that properties of the same value, pay the same amount of taxes for metropolitan and school board services. The Interim Reassessment Plan is an important first step towards gradually achieving this goal.

Assessment and Taxation: Property tax is based on property assessment. The assessed value of your property is used to determine the amount of taxes owing each year. Property tax is calculated as follows: assessed value (set by Province) X mill rate (set by local government).

To Learn More

All Metro Toronto property owners or property renters should determine if reassessment will result in a change to their 1993 property tax. A publication with details on reassessment and how it affects your property is available through Access Metro or your Metropolitan Councillor.

Call one of the information sources listed.

ACCESS METRO

If your question is about the impact of reassessment on your property, information is provided in more than 100 languages, through over-the-phone interpretation by the AT&T Language Line system. Call between 8:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.
(416) 397-7143 (Service in English) (416) 397-7146 (Multilingual service & TDD)

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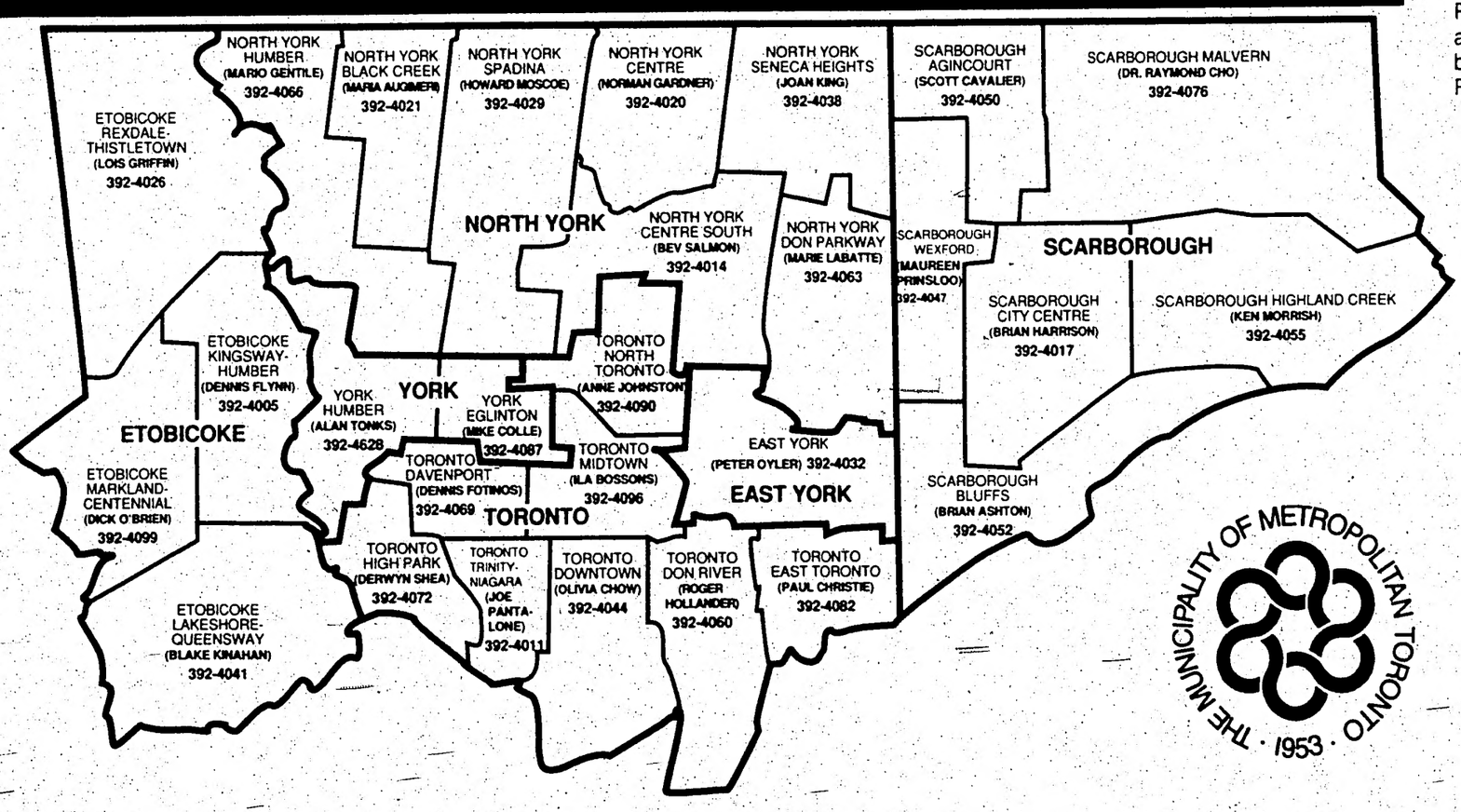
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Property Assessment

Property tax is based on property assessment, which is determined by Ontario Ministry of Revenue, Regional Assessment Offices.

City of Toronto property owners, call:
(416) 486-6300

Cities of Etobicoke and York property owners, call:
(416) 621-9400

City of Scarborough and Borough of East York property owners, call:
(416) 423-1240

City of North York property owners, call
(416) 314-7832

If you know a property owner who may have difficulty reading this ad, please read it to them.

THE MUNICIPALITY OF METROPOLITAN TORONTO · 1953 ·

Arts

CICF show proves interesting

By PAULA CITRON

TORONTO —

Part of the mandate of the Toronto Chaper of the Canada-Israel Cultural Foundation is to showcase young and talented Israeli musicians. The organization's latest concert at the Jane Mallett Theatre featured violinist Guy Braunstein and pianist Vag Papian in an evening that was dichotomous — enjoyable but curiously irritating.

Israeli-born Braunstein, 21 and Armenian emigré Papian, 35, are the odd couple of music. The violinist is a tall, fair-haired strapping example of vibrant young manhood while Papian is a dark, short gnome-like man who hunches himself over the piano reminiscent of the playing posture of the late Glenn Gould.

As musicians, they have tremendous simpatico with each other and have obvioously discussed their joint interpretations at great length. Nonetheless, while they are both very talented, and their long list of awards attests to this fact, for this writer, the concert had its problems with Papian being the more agreeable musician of the two.

Braunstein plays with a heavy-hand and large brush strokes; nuance is not his strong point, and it took a period of adjustment to come to grips with his overbroad interpretations of more thoughtful musical passages.

Papian, on the other hand, was able to display more overt versatility throughout the concert. Only in the encore when the two played Massenet's beloved *Meditation* from the opera *Thais* did Braunstein show an intrinsic sweetness and lightness of tone which matched his partner's.

The two major works on the program were Brahms *Sonata No. 2 in A major* and Richard Strauss' *Sonata for Violin and Piano in E flat major*, both brutally demanding pieces of music. The Brahms, in particular, is filled with reflective passages which can sound muddy if not played with clarity.

While Braunstein gave a passionate interpretation, it seemed to lack the intellectual weight needed; Papian, on the other hand, was not just an accompanist, but played as an equal partner. He was more consistent as an interpreter in his ability to caress the gentle elements and strike boldly with blood and thunder as required.

Papain's solo was Liszt's fatuously silly *Fantasia on Le Nozze di Figaro by Mozart*, and this was probably the most satisfying piece of the evening. Liszt has taken Mozart's beloved arias and layered, embellished and ornamented them beyond endurance.

Nonetheless, Papian attacked the piece with a seriousness and a complexity it did not deserve while playing each variation with the correct stylistic approach. He was able to be faithful to Mozart's melodies while showing off Liszt's rococo trappings for what they were — sheer bravura nonsense.

The concert began with Schubert's *Rondo Brillant* and was Braunstein's best effort. The piece is designed to show off the multi-techniques of both a violinist and a pianist and because the work did not require great intellectual thought, Braunstein was able to lope through with considerable skill, ably abetted by an equally adept Papian.

In retrospect, one would like to see what kind of a violinist Braunstein will be 10 years from now. For the writer, his deficiences in interpretation were highlghted because he was playing with a pianist whose age and experience permitted a more mature musical approach.

Chanukah books

BY SHELDON KIRSHNER

When thoughts turn to Chanukah, we think of menorahs, gifts, latkes and, of course, miracles.

All these elements — and many more — are woven into the fabric of three fine, newly-published children's books about the Festival of Lights.

A Family Hanukkah (Random House, $9.99)is a beautifully-told and lavishly-illustrated story of a family gathering in rural America.

The grandchildren beg grandpa to relate the story of Chanukah, and he does with touching simplicity. The family then sits down to a traditional, mouth-watering Chanukah meal.

A Family Hanukkah is written by Bobbi Katz and illustrated by Caryl Herzfeld.

The Chanukkah Guest (Thomas Allen & Son, $7.95) by Eric Kimmel turns on a gentle old bear, a near-sighted grandmother and a rabbi. It is set in 19th century Eastern Europe, the ancestral home of many North American Jews.

Kimmel's story is endearing and amusing, while Giora Carmi's illustrations are redolent of a bygone era.

The Spotted Pony (Thomas Allen & Son, $19.95) is a collection of eight Chanukah tales, one for every night of the holiday, as retold by Eric Kimmel.

They are delightful, summoning up images of wise rabbis, evil demons, ghosts and fools. Leonard Everett Fisher's expertly rendered black-and-white drawings evoke strength and passion.

A triumph.

Books

By BERNARD BASKIN

Does God Belong In The Bedroom? By Michael Gold Jewish Publication Society $22.95 (U.S.)

How should Judaism deal with homosexuality, abortion, artificial insemination, surrogate motherhood, incest and rape? Can a marriage be rebuilt after adultery? Are all sexual parctices permissable between husband and wife? How should Jews regard victims of AIDS? How do Jewish attitudes toward sexuality differ from those of Christianity?

In approaching these and similar complex questions the author suggests a sexual ethic based on a ladder of holiness. At the bottom of the ladder are unacceptable kinds of behavior; at the top are those that conform to the Jewish ideal of holiness. In between are various shades of grey.

"Sex between two close and intimate friends is higher on the ladder than sex between anonymous strangers. Sex with one's exclusive lover is higher still. The highest degree of holiness is reserved for the most permanent relationship: marriage. Within the marital relationship, love and sex are intimately tied together. Sex is a way of expressing love; love is a way of sanctifying sex."

Michael Gold is a pulpit rabbi with a special interest in family counselling. He combines the wisdom to be found in Jewish literature — the Torah, Talmud, Midrash and other clsassic writings — with his own personal experience and insights.

Surprisingly, he asserts, that the Torah does not forbid non-marital sex. The prohibition came later with the rabbis. Actually, mainstream Judaism has always regarded sex as natural and joyous. Celibacy and ascetism have been downgraded. The talmud teaches that in the world to come a man must give an accounting for every legitimate pleasure that he denied himself. "The myth that religious Jews are required to make love through a hole in a sheet is nonsense. Pleasure was a concern of the rabbis; they understood that it is enhanced by nudity."

The author's attitude towards surrogate motherhood is controversial. He believes that if a couple is able to find a woman to carry their baby, and understand the risks, why shouldn't they be allowed to do so? There are certainly biblical precedence for surrogate motherhood. Abraham and Sarah used Hagar; Jacob and Rachel used Bilhah. Some have claimed that surrogate motherhood is baby buying, but how can a biological father buy his own child?

Tragically, Rabbi Gold's brother died from AIDS at the age of 37. He points out that the Jewish community tends to deny that such problems as alcoholism, drug abuse and AIDS affect Jews. "There are Jews with AIDS; I have counselled many of them besides my brother. Often they are estranged from synagogue and community life; sometimes they are estranged from their own families."

He insists that the Jewish community must treat persons with AIDS as human beings created in God's image who have been struck by a terrible diseasse. It may take unusual love and compassion, but Jews can do no less.

Looking back on his fund of counselling experience the author asserts that sex is only a small part of a successful marriage. He reminds us of the rabbinical teaching, "When love is strong, a man and woman can make their bed on a sword's blade. When love grows weak a bed of 60 cubits is not enough."

Rabbi Gold concludes that government does not belong in the bedroom; God does. Ultimately religious leaders must show their congregants how they can, rung by rung, climb the sexual ladder to a greater degree of both satisfaction and holiness.

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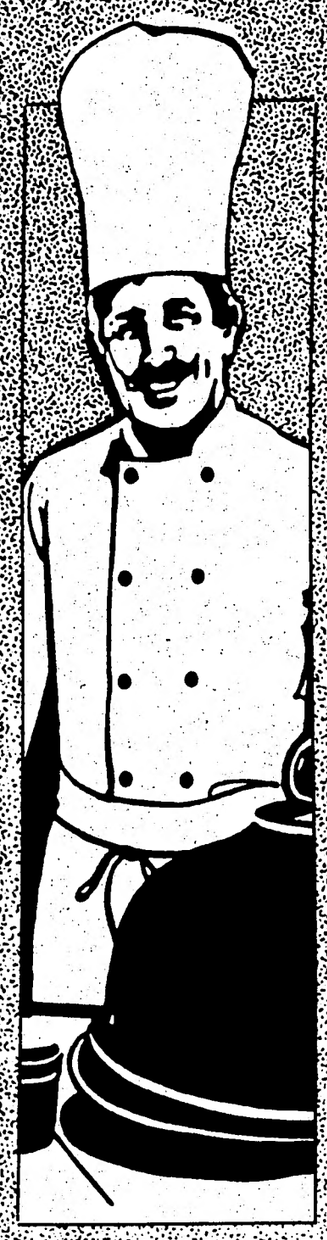

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Arts

Lawrence of Arabia revisited 30 years later

By LEILA SPEISMAN

You've seen the movie: now read the book.

That may sound backwards, but that is exactly what Lawrence Raskin and Robert Morris invite you to do with their just-published *Lawrence of Arabia; the 30th anniversary pictorial history* (Doubleday, 1992).

The movie *Lawrence of Arabia*, which made international stars out of Peter O'Toole and Omar Sharif, debuted at a Royal Command Performance in London, December 10, 1962, exactly 30 years ago.

The story of how it reached that point makes fascinating reading.

During World War I, Col. T.E. Lawrence was sent to the Middle East to try to unite the warring Arab tribes, and persuade them to revolt against the Turks (who were fighting on Germany's side) and fight for the British.

He was highly successful, partly because he was able to promise them that, as a reward for their loyalty, their interests would be taken into account after the war.

To his disgust, at the Versailles Peace Conference, Arabia was carved up into mainly French and British protectorates, with little regard for Arab aspirations.

Lawrence retreated to England, where, for reasons which are not totally clear, he made a determined effort to become anonymous. In 1935, under somewhat mysterious circumstances, he was killed in a motorcycle accident.

Several attempts were made over the years to make a movie about this dramatic and enigmatic character, principally by noted film pioneer Alexander Korda. None, however, was successful, until Sam Spiegel and David Lean's epic, over two years in the making, which gleaned seven Oscars and innumerable other industry awards.

Between 1986 and 1988, film archivist Robert Harris restored the film, and it was then re-issued, better than before, according to Raskin.

Now, how did two nice Jewish boys, a Toronto graphic design consultant (Raskin) and a Carleton University professor of computer science (Morris) get involved?

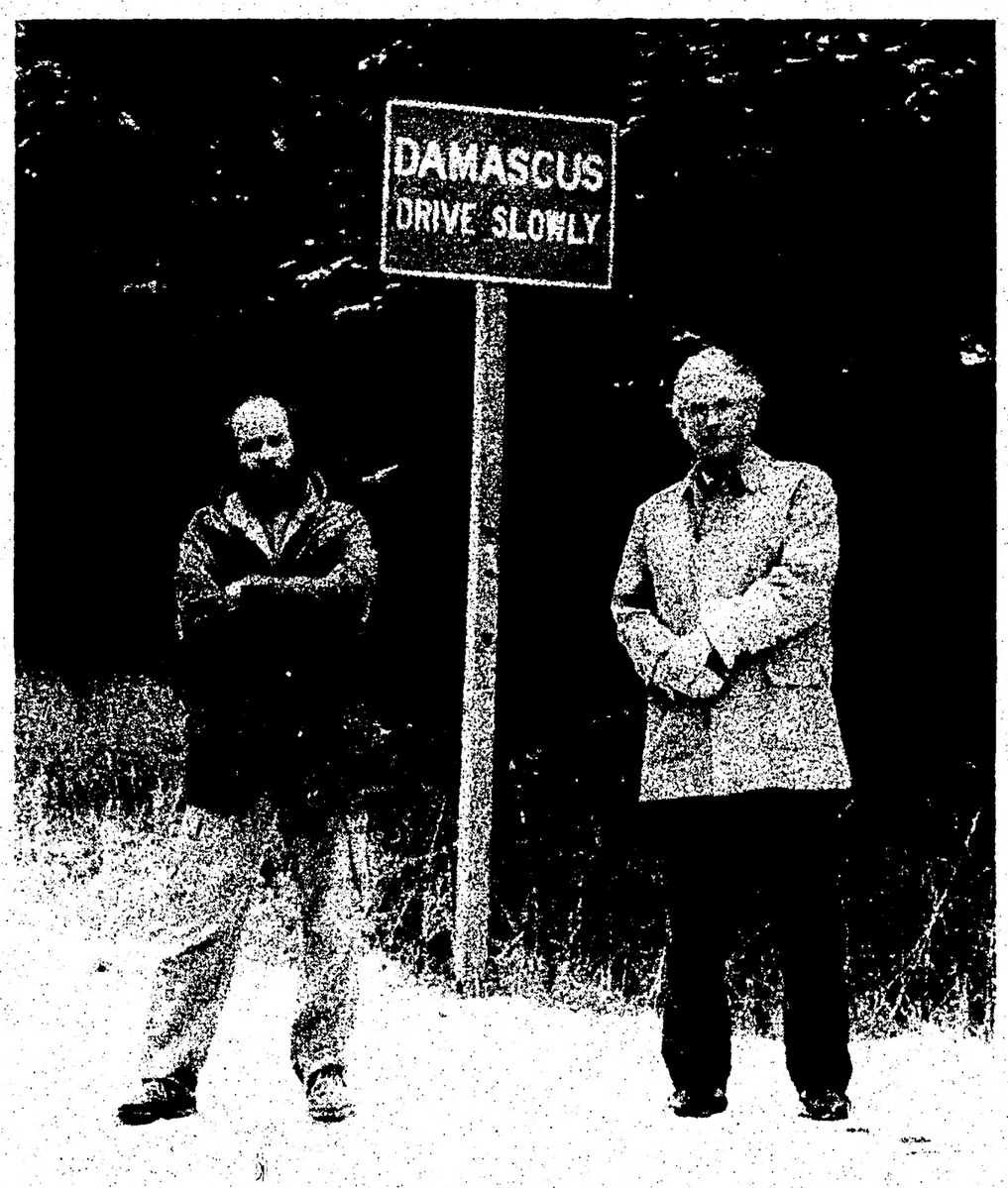
Raskin and Morris met and became friends while students at the University of Toronto, united, among other things, by their love for the movie *Lawrence of Arabia*.

"It was unlike anything we had ever seen," Raskin told *The CJN*. They were impressed with "the incredible desert vistas, which spoke to us in a way landscape never had before."

Besides, Raskin said, they were impressed by the interesting and provocative story of a junior officer, busy preparing maps in Cairo, "who was thrust into this strange role of the leader of tribes fighting against the Turks."

Lawrence, the pair believe, was "the last of the romantic war heros; the last one still set in the mold of chivalry."

Raskin says he was also struck by the fact that Lawrence chose to fade into obscurity after the war.



Lawrence Raskin (left) and Robert Morris stand in front of a signpost for Damascus — Ontario, that is, following in the tradition of authors who claim to write their books in exotic places.

"He felt he had betrayed the Arab cause. Many feel that the British and French carving up the Middle East according to their own notions was the beginning of the mess we are in there now. The Arabs found they couldn't trust Western promises."

Raskin notes that many Jews believe that Lawrence was anti-Semitic. This, he says, is absolutely wrong.

To prove his point, Raskin brings quotes from Chaim Weizmann, first president of the State of Israel, who was already working for a Jewish state in Palestine.

These documents show, Raskin says, Lawrence not only expressed approval of Zionist immigration, but arranged a meeting with Weizmann and Emir Feisal, the chief Arab negotiator, where he also acted as interpreter.

"This was the first political meeting between Arabs and Jews," Raskin points out.

When the film was re-issued in 1989, Raskin and Morris looked for a book about the making of the film, such as there usually is for major movies.

Discovering that there wasn't one, they decided they would take up the challenge.

They were able to get assistance from many involved with the original production, including Lean, archivist Harris, Omar Sharif, editor Anne Coates, cinematographer Freddie Young, playwright Robert Bolt, and costume designer Phyllis Dalton.

They also combed military archives in England, photo archives in Los Angeles and London, as well as private collections.

Their research took them to locales as mundane as Toronto and as exotic as Spain, Morocco and Jordan.

The result is a lavish pictorial history of the making of the movie, nearly half in color, and filled with anecdotes, insights and explanations that make the reader feel as if he or she is right there in the dust of Jordan or the backrooms of Hollywood film studios.

The cost, $22.50 paper or $45 hardcover, should not be a deterrent — there are hours of enjoyment from this book.

'Survivors' relive horrors

By BEN ROSE

TORONTO —

I thought they were baking bread, day and night, because it was a big camp.

The bills of lading said the people in the freight cars were being relocated as supplementary labor. I didn't need to know any more.

The theme of professed ignorance of what was happening in the concentration camps surfaced again and again in the testimony at the 1964 war crimes trials in Frankfurt.

The testimony of those who ran Auschwitz or delivered victims to its gates, plus that of survivors who recognized the accused, was taken directly from the trial transcript and formed the basis of *The Investigation*, a play by Peter Weiss.

A cast of 14 first-rank Canadian actors gave a reading of the searching lines in *The Investigation* at The Tarragon Theatre recently as a benefit for the Holocaust Centre. Unfortunately, the theatre was only one-third full.

The reading was produced by Jason Sherman, a young Toronto playwright, who said the visit of Holocaust-denier David Irving to Canada prompted him to counter that visit with *The Investigation*.

For 90 minutes, the accused and the accusers spoke of life and death in the camp, in testimony that was frankly incredible at times. For instance, a German magistrate was summoned to Auschwitz by the commandant who said gold teeth from the victims was mailed out by a guard and he wanted to halt corruption!

The judge at the trial (actor David Fox) asked why people didn't resist when they were unloaded from the trains onto the Auschwitz platform. "They were too weak from starvation to resist," said a camp employee. When the judge further asked why the victims went willingly to the anteroom of the gas chamber, he was told, "They were instructed to be sure to remember the number of the peg on which their clothes were hung for when they came out of the showers. Mothers were joking with their children and encouraging those that seemed afraid."

The seven accused stolidly denied any wrongdoing and some of them hurled defiance at the prosecuting attorney, (actor Albert Shultz). One appeared to show some remorse. "I was deeply shocked when I found out about the crematorium," he said. "I told my mother and she was shocked too, but she said it couldn't be true because you can't burn flesh."

The defence counsel (played by Andrew Akman) summed up for his clients this way: "I only looked on from the outside."

One inmate (actor Susan Coyne) said matter-of-factly that it was normal for one victim to steal from another, that she sat beside dying inmates so she could take their food, that she took over the sleeping place of anyone who died if it was better than hers.

In some of the most chilling testimony, another woman (played by Diana Leblanc) described the medical experiments of Dr. Mengele and his colleagues in Women's Barrack No. 10. The ovaries of young women were burned out by X-rays and later removed. The Fallopian tubes of some women were pasted together. Experiments were done on pregnant women.

Other actors taking part were Stephen Ouimette, Tom McCamus, Michael Hogan, John Gilbert, Leon Pownall, Gary Reineke and John Bourgeois.

Pnina Spetgang, director of the Holocaust Centre, thanked Sherman and the actors for their voluntary efforts.

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TRAVEL TALK

By
LEN BUTCHER

It's another gloomy, damp, chilly Sunday morning and I'm patiently waiting for the **Dragon Lady** to get in so we can plan an even more interesting, more entertaining **Canadian Jewish News** for you.

However, knowing **She Who Must Be Obeyed,** as **Rumpole of the Bailey** would say, I am settling in for a long wait. The **Dragon Lady,** or known to you who read the **CJN** masthead as **Patricia Rucker, Editor** of this weekly conveyor of both good and bad news, is not--and I repeat, NOT--a morning person.

Being well aware of this fact, and having completed the rather long and boring task of cleaning off the top of my desk in readiness for the coming week, I thought I might pass along some travel information that may or may not interest you.

* * * * *

A survey done for **Four Seasons Hotels and Resorts** showed that twice as many holiday travelers prefer staying at a luxury resort over visiting relatives. This survey probably cost them tens of thousands of dollars. I could have told them the same thing for a hundred bucks, so next time, guys, remember the **Butcher Man.**

The survey also said that despite the economy, people spend $1100 on average for gifts and the 50-plus age category spent $1362. Who are these people? My mother gives me a kiss, wishes me happy holidays and tells me to make sure to button up my coat before I go out.

According to the firm that did the survey, they polled a total of 138 males and 139 females (don't ask why there's one more woman. I don't know and don't care) with household incomes of $50,000 or more.

There's more. When asked what celebrity family they would most like to spend the holidays with at a luxurious hotel, most chose **Paul Newman** and **Joanne Woodward** (27 percent). Of the 18-24 age group, 24 percent said they would choose **Billy Joel** and **Christie Brinkley.** I would have chosen only **Christie Brinkley,** but as I wasn't asked, who cares?

Other findings of interest:

Three times more women than men find the holidays stressful, particularly working women. That tells me that the men are obviously not pitching in and doing their share of the shopping, housework etc. Shame on you!

Men's least favorite holiday activity is buying and wrapping gifts while women's least favorite is sending cards. I find that surprising. I always believed women loved to send cards. Shows you how much I know.

And last, men are more likely to take time off from work than are women--65 percent compared to 46 percent. C'mon guys. That really makes us look bad. Even irresponsible. But maybe that's why we have more fun.

* * * * *

If any of you are lucky enough to be in **Paris** at the end of January and are interested in fashion, there's several shows you won't want to miss and they're all being held at the same place.

From Saturday, January 30 to Tuesday, February 2 (9 a.m. to 7 p.m.) there is the **International Men's and Boys' Wear Show** and the **International Children's Wear Show** (but in a different building).

For the women, from Friday, January 29 to Monday, February 1, there is the **International Women's Ready-to-Wear Show.**

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Business Outlook

Bubbie promotes family values

By PAUL LUNGEN

TORONTO —

While it hasn't yet made it as an election issue north of the border, Canadians seem to be almost as concerned as their American cousins over the recently-trendy issue of "family values."

As far as Al Schwarz is concerned, anyone interested in seeing real family values in action should simply tune in to Peterborough's CHEX TV on Sunday afternoons and cast their eyes on *The Bubbie Break*.

The show has the warm feel of a Friday night dinner and the loving ambience of a visit to a grandmother's house.

The bubbie in front of the cameras, Al's mother Marion Schwarz, manages all that in a traditional interview format. There is no high-tech camera wizardry, no pyrotechnics — just a straightforward, down-to-earth tone that underlies the show's philosophy that people telling their stories are more interesting then the shock value other daytime interview programs strive for when they interview the likes of cross-dressing single mothers on welfare.

"We've got a show that demonstrates the love of a grandparent," says Al Schwarz, co-producer of the show. "The bubbie was promoting family values long before it became a political issue."

The bubbie in *The Bubbie Break* not only conducts the interviews but also serves as the show's executive producer and has the final say in the on-air product.

Al, along with his sister Susan and brother Jason, serve as co-producers, making the whole venture a family affair.

Thanks to Jason and Debbie's two children, Marion can happily wear the label of bubbie when each week she brings her unique perspective to interviews.

"I try to ask the questions other grandparents would ask but don't have the opportunity," she says.

In the show's three years on the air, Schwarz has interviewed a wide variety of guests — everyone from lawyers discussing grandparents' rights to car-racing grannies.

Schwarz sees the program as a learning experience, both for herself and for those watching at home.

A bespectacled grandmother of 67, Schwarz is not afraid to tackle difficult subjects. She has interviewed a gay grandfather about his relationship with his family. She's discussed subjects like child snatching, exposure to drugs, teen gangs and swarming, preparing a child to deal with a grandparent stricken with Alzheimer's, child abuse and autism.

On the lighter side, the bubbie has talked to 75-year-old car stunt driver Lucky Lot, interviewed car-racing grannies Helen Young and Ann Tolton and invited Ethel Keast, the world moose-calling champion, to demonstrate her talents. She's even been invited to go bear-hunting with the fearless moose-caller.

All these interviews are designed to inform viewers about issues of importance to grandparents. But more than that, it gives Schwarz the opportunity to present a message near and dear to her heart, that "if love is in the house, they'll pass it on. If abuse is in the house, they'll pass that on.

"Whether they are 3 years old or 95, you must give respect and if you give enough love, it has to rub off," she believes.

"The whole show is dedicated to love," she continues. "I feel that if I can help one person through the show, it's worthwhile."

Even before her television career began, Schwarz had become a well-known figure in her hometown of Oshawa, where she ran an antique store and wrote for a television magazine.

After she gave up the antique business, the Schwarz conglomerate got together and pitched *The Bubbie Break* to CHEX programming manager Bruce Anderson.

"He liked the idea from the start," Schwarz said. With the support of her husband Joe, who's in the cattle business, Marion began making the thrice weekly treks to Toronto to tape the program.

The show's popularity has prompted the Schwarzes to look for exposure in other markets. Al will be travelling to San Francisco in January to promote the program at a NATPE (National Association of Television Progamming Executives) trade show.

There, bubbie's program will certainly stand apart from other talk shows hosted by the likes of Oprah, Sally Jesse and Geraldo. But it's unlikely that such high profile company will go to her head.

"I am what I am and that's it. A wife, mother, grandmother and TV personality. But my family will always come first," she says.

Canadian and Commonwealth boxing champ Donovan Boucher, seen here with bubbie Marion Schwarz, described on The Bubbie Break how he was raised by his grandmothers.

Canadian investors save firm

Public Optical, a Canadian tradition in quality eyecare for the past 45 years, has been brought back from the brink of liquidation by a group of Canadian investors, saving over 70 jobs.

The 12-store chain located in Toronto, Barrie and Ottawa was weakened by increased competition combined with the long recession, and was placed in receivership in September. A number of firms, including at least one from the United States, were considering taking over the company.

However, newly appointed president Louise Talbot had other plans. She and her partners, a group of investors known as Public Eyecare Management Inc. purchased the assets of the company. The stores are back in full operation under the new owners after emerging intact from bankruptcy proceedings.

And keeping it in Canadian hands was an important consideration for Talbot.

"The job security of the employees was preserved, rather than giving way to American intrusion. We've kept the company Canadian, that's something we're proud of," she says. "Public Optical has provided it's customers with over 45 years of eyecare excellence. Remaining Canadian owned and operated is an important part of this tradition."

Talbot, formerly vice president of sales, joined the company four years ago. The energetic Talbot, in her mid 20s, is the youngest president in Public Optical history.

Asked about her plans for the future, Talbot stressed the need to first re-establish a strong financial base: "We have made terrific progress in only a few weeks — landlord's and suppliers have been very supportive. Defining new objectives for this company is a pirority," Talbot believes, noting, "that a strong management team, equalled to an enthusiastic group of dedicated support staff members, is essential to Public Optical's future success. Providing superior service, quality products, and low prices will continue for another fifty years!"

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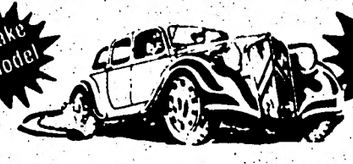
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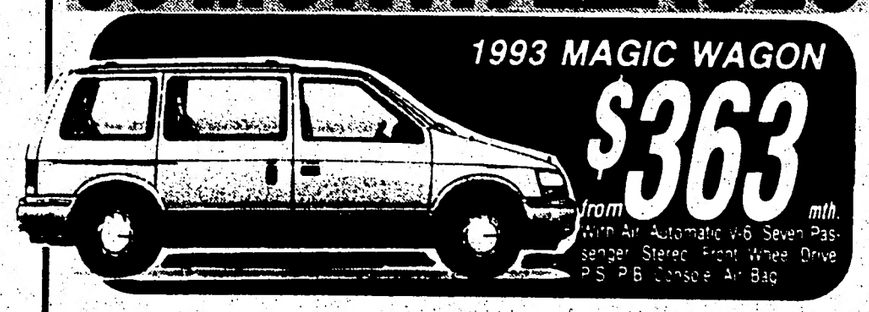
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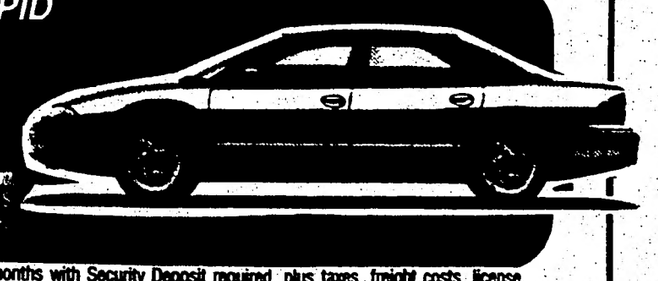
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7 Condominiums For Rent

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13 Apartments For Rent

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13 Apartments For Rent

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23 Florida Property For Rent

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27 Israel Properties

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33 Vacation Properties

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51 Domestic Help Wanted

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The unveiling of a monument to the memory of the late
SYDNEY WAGMAN ז"ל
will take place
Sunday, December 13th, 11:00 a.m.
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Wednesday, 12 noon
1 Week Preceding Issue Date
(for copy and prepayment)

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JFM looks to youth for new charitable funds

By MYRON LOVE

WINNIPEG — The Jewish Foundation of Manitoba (JFM) is looking to youth for new charitable funds. The foundation has announced that Robyn Lieberman has agreed to chair a committee to educate and assist bar and bat-mitzvahs and their parents in establishing funds commemorating the event through the JFM.

"The idea goes back about 15 years," says David Cohen, the foundation's executive director, "but not much transpired. We are trying to rekindle the program."

Lieberman is an ideal choice to head the program. She and her brother, Jonathon, were the first bar and bat mitzvahs to establish funds through the foundation in 1979 and 1981 respectively.

"I felt it was something I needed to do," she says. "Tzedakah and community work were givens around our house. It was nice to be able to help others through my bat mitzvah."

Over the years, Lieberman has contributed to a number of difficult local and Israel-based causes. She has also become an active community worker through the Combined Jewish Appeal and its Young Leadership Program and Hadassah-WIZO (she is president of her chapter).

As chair of the bar/bat mitzvah committee, she and her committee members will be going into the schools and the synagogues to talk to pre- bar/bat mitzvah children about the Jewish Foundation. "We are hoping to be able to explain to the children and their parents what is involved, how to establish a fund [a minimum of only $100 is necessary] and the benefits," Lieberman says. "There aren't many ways for a 13-year-old to be involved in the community and giving tzedakah. This is one way, a way which will also always be connected to memories of the bar mitzvah."

The Jewish Foundation of Manitoba was formed in 1964 to safeguard the future of the Winnipeg Jewish community. As the years go by, the foundation has come to play an ever growing role in funding community institutions as their expenses outstrip the annual Combined Jewish Appeal revenues. The foundation currently has capital of $13 million. Last year, it distributed grants of $913,000 to over 100 beneficiaries.

Cowitz, Mary on November 29, 1992, late of 21 Mayfair Avenue.
Fraklin, Gussie on November 25, 1992.
Goodman, Kay on November 25, 1992, late of 343 Clark Ave. W., #901.
Jessel, Bernard on November 26, 1992.
Lahman, Molley on November 24, 1992, late of 6030 Bathurst St., #404.
Muller, Eugen on November 25, 1992, late of 1 Canyon Ave., #611.
Newman, Sally on November 26, 1992.
Reiss, Frieda on November 26, 1992.
Storm, David on November 24, 1992, late of 6000 Bathurst St., #508.

Steeles-College Memorial Chapel

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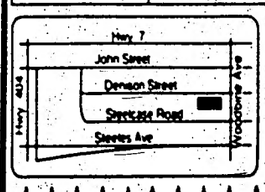

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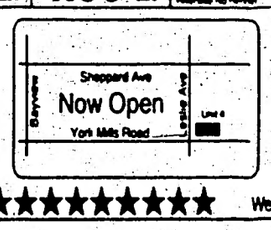

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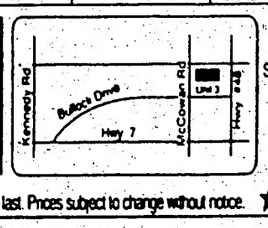

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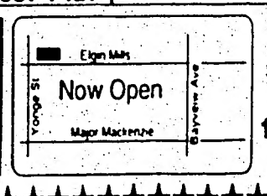

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